THE TERRAPIN

2020

to my family, friends, fellow
Terps and those who have
changed my life for the better

thank you

Letter from the Editor

To my fellow seniors:

Anticlimactic is an understatement. Unpredictable, heart-wrenching...any adjective to describe the feeling of robbery could not accurately convey how it feels to miss out on walking at graduation and being present for a proper in-person ceremony. It feels surreal to have years of hard work amount to congratulations from behind a screen. Despite the misfortune of ending a strenuous academic journey without all of our peers to surround us, we are fortunate enough to live in a time when technology can facilitate a celebration of our achievements and continue to keep us connected.

Over the past four years, some of the most pivotal of our lives, we have fine-tuned our abilities to think critically, act responsibly and live freely, all of which prepare us to enter a world of wonder and complexity. Not every day has been perfect, and that's just the way life goes. All we can do is learn from the imperfections, taking the bad in stride and making the good last as long as possible. Having to attend a virtual graduation is truly a minor problem to have in a world that needs tremendous amounts of repair. We should all be using the education we have received to make our Earth a better place - one that is cleaner and safer than the day before - and to fight injustices, many of which may not directly affect us.

Being in our 20s renders us extremely capable of seizing new opportunities far outside our comfort zones, both physical and mental. With time and effort, those comfort zones, rich with experiences that pushed their boundaries, will be so vast that nothing will be unattainable for us. As overwhelming as the world is right now, it is important to trust in your own abilities and take small steps (or big leaps) towards your goals. Congratulations, and I wish you all the best.

#Terps2020

by Connor Senay

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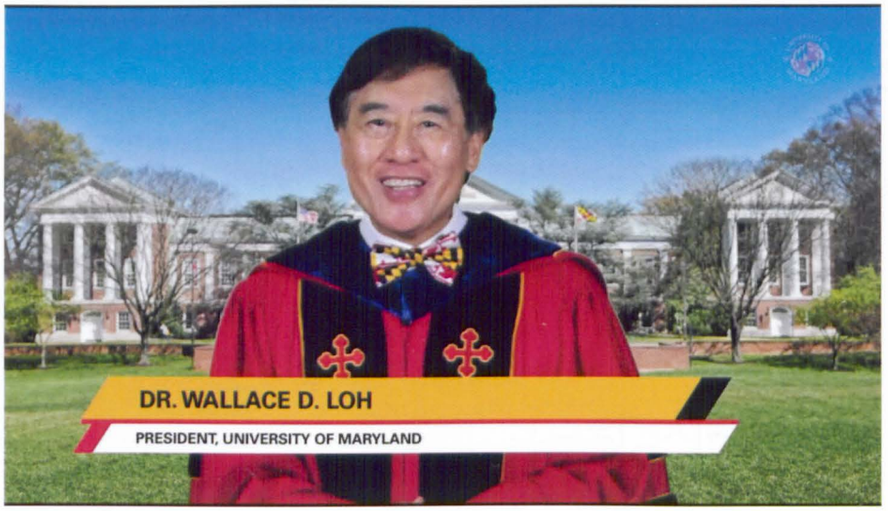
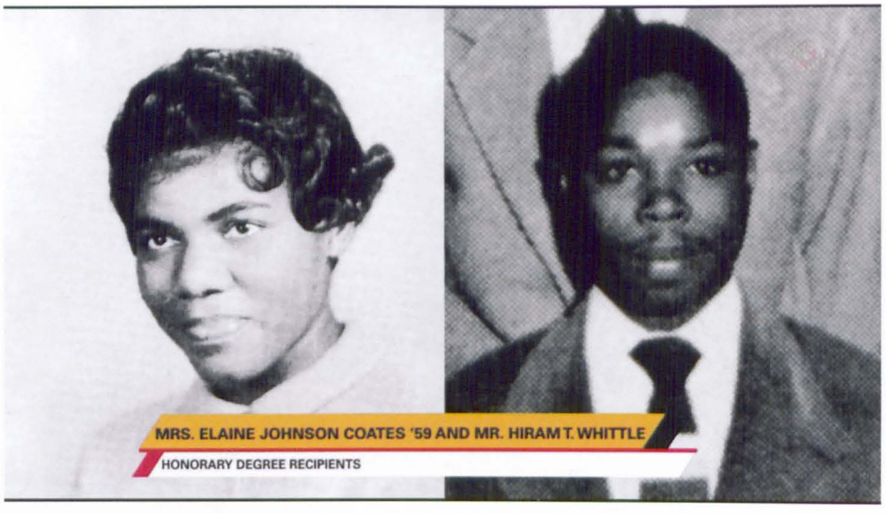
Foreword: Graduation in Quarantine

At 1 p.m. on May 22, 2020, President Loh signed on for one last commencement as the head of the University of Maryland. He proceeded to recognize the two recipients of honorary doctorates of public services, Elaine Johnson Coates and Hiram T. Whittle, who broke barriers of segregation.



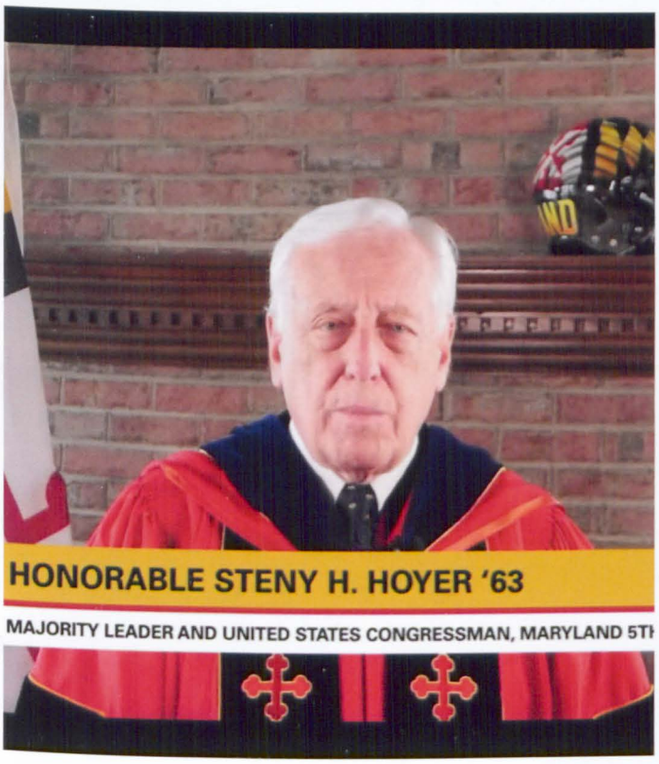
Honorary Graduates: Elaine Johnson Coates, Hiram T. Whittle



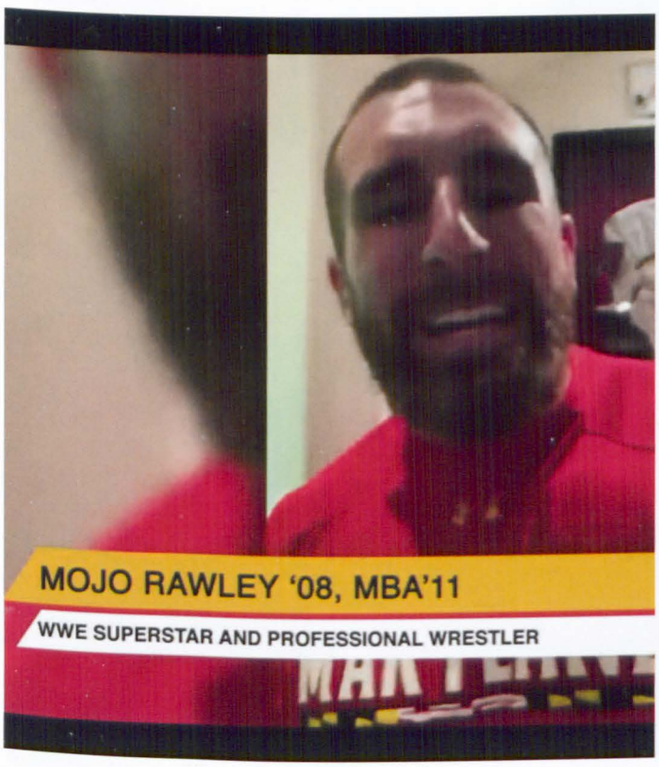
In 1951, Mr. Whittle, under court order, was the first black man to enroll in an undergraduate degree at the University of Maryland. In 1959, Ms. Johnson Coates was the first black woman to receive an undergraduate degree from UMD.

What followed were a host of alumni, graduating students and Maryland officials addressing the class of 2020 in a congratulatory manner, sending them off into the world with best wishes.

Alumni Speakers



Steny Hoyer, House Majority Leader and U.S. Congressman, Maryland 5th District.



Student Speakers

Class of 2020 Valedictorian Citrupa Gopal rallied her classmates around being the next wave of innovators as we fight through COVID together.

Class of 2020 SGA President Ireland Lesley presented Congressman Steny Hoyer, explaining his ongoing political achievements.

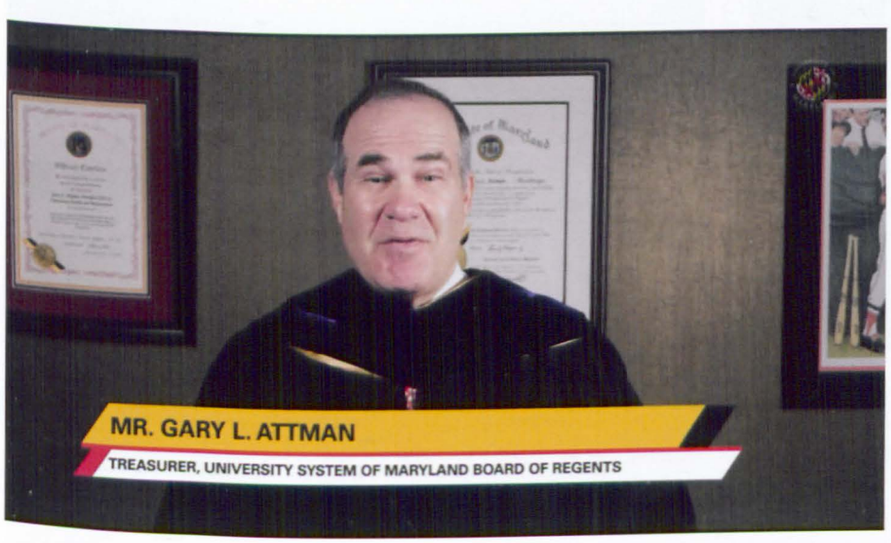
School / State Officials

Provost Rankin presented degrees to majors without individual graduations:

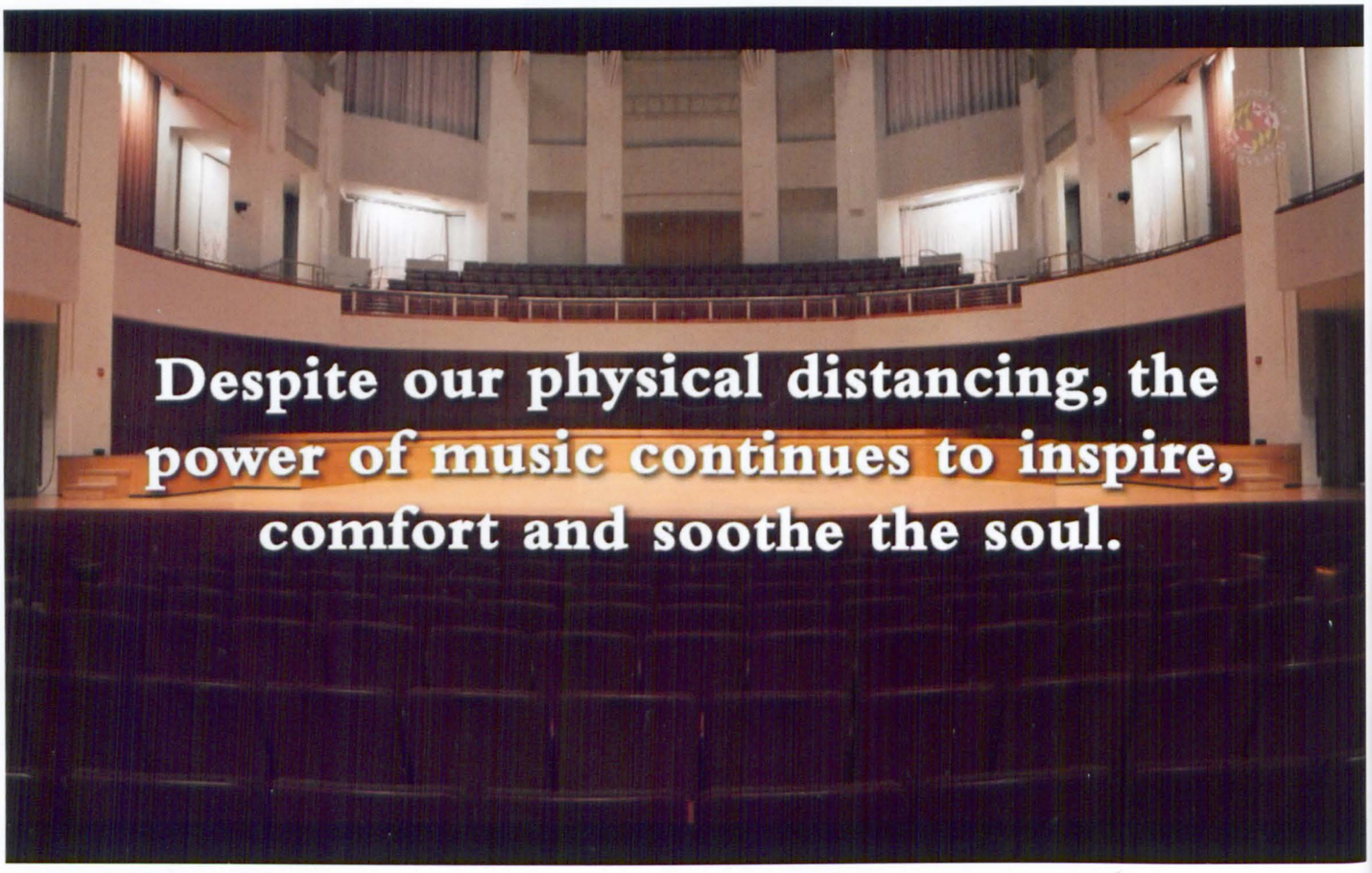
- Bachelor of Arts. Landscape Architecture. Music. Music Education. Science

- Master of Applied Anthropology. Architecture. Arts. Business Adminstration. Chemical / Life Sciences. Community Planning. Education. Engineering. Finance. Fine Arts. Health Administration. Historic Preservation. Information Management. Journalism. Landscape Architecture. Library and Info Sciences. Music. Professional Studies. Public Health. Public Management. Public Policy. Quantitative Finance. Real Estate Development. Science.

- Doctor of Audiology. Education. Musical Arts. Philosophy



Music: A Sense of Unity in Isolating Times



Musical performances for this year's graduation were, naturally, held virtually, compiling individual video submissions to create a rich, multi-layered listening experience for all viewers.

Members of the University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra performed the Jupiter hymn.

Members of the UMD Chamber Singers in the School of Music performed our famous alma mater.

The Mighty Sound of Maryland also performed the university's alma mater, an experience so immersive that it transported the listener right into the Xfinity Center on game night.

CONGRATULATIONS!

TODAY IS YOUR DAY.
YOU'RE OFF TO GREAT PLACES!
YOU'RE OFF AND AWAY!

DR. SEUSS

Forever a Terp

Class of 2020

What's on your campus bucket list?

"Hang out with friends indoors"

"Steal a notable street sign"

"Sex in McKeldin"

"Huge sesh on 4/20"

"My final dance show as an undergrad"

"Watch Maryland basketball, especially March Madness"

"Walk on the roof of the Xfinity Center"

"Climb CSPAC"

"All nighter D.C. monument tour"

"Play hockey in McKeldin fountain while it's frozen over"

"Smoke tons of weed on top of T-Row"

"Sex on the football field"

"Play porn out loud in the library"

"Smoke a blunt with a C-Stone bouncer"

"Graduation pictures on the mall"

"Trip shrooms and people-watch on McKeldin"

"Looney's Karaoke"

"Picnic on McKeldin Mall"

"Senior bar crawl"

"Play basketball on the Xfinity Center court"

"Spend a Friday afternoon walking through every building I'd never been in while drinking"

"Jump in McKeldin Fountain"

"Graduate"

"Streak on the mall"

"Swim in McKeldin fountain one more time"

"Play soccer in Cole Fieldhouse"

"Get so drunk they throw me out of Bents"

"Try restaurants in the surrounding area like Shagga"

"Have sex on the roof of McKeldin"

"Smoke 100 bowls and walk to the monuments"

Contributions from:
Jeff Wexler
Suzanne Creedon
Jacob Schepers
Carmen Bodziak
Dilan Rojas
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Molly Krawczyk
Sanjeev Jariwala
Vince Donohue
Connor Senay
Emmett Strack
Kait Watson
Namrita Perincherry
Sri Chebrolu
Olivia Mandell

Stay home. Stay Safe.

Just when everything was going well, COVID-19 turned the world upside down.

Federal, state and local governments mandated everyone to "shelter in place" and practice "social distancing" by staying 6 feet apart.

Because of that, we stopped going into our school buildings; instead, we did our homework and attended class online. We said goodbye to our teachers, school events were canceled and our winter and spring sports seasons were cut short. We faced a new world of uncertainty.

Our new reality...

Cleaners, hand sanitizers, face masks, gloves, virtual hugs, social distancing, and toilet paper shortages.

We were told to constantly wash our hands and nearly bathed ourselves in hand sanitizer. We wore masks and gloves when we went outside. When we went to the store, we noticed empty shelves - especially where there used to be toilet paper. We kept busy by playing board games, going on walks and cooking new recipes...puzzles even made a comeback. We found new ways to virtually communicate with friends. It has been a time in our lives we will never forget.

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The situation with COVID-19 rapidly evolved and our world suddenly changed when the virus struck...

DECEMBER 2019 & JANUARY 2020

December 31: Chinese Health officials inform the WHO about a cluster of 41 patients with mysterious pneumonia. Most are connected to Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market.

January 7: Chinese authorities identify a new type of coronavirus (called novel coronavirus or nCoV).

January 20: Other countries confirm cases. First U.S. case is reported: a 35-year-old man in Washington.

January 23: Wuhan, a Chinese city of more than 11 million, is cut off by the country's authorities.

January 30: World Health Organization (WHO) declares a global health emergency.

FEBRUARY 2020

February 2: The first Coronavirus death is reported outside China.

February 14: France announces the first COVID-19 death in Europe.

February 21: Coronavirus outbreak strikes South Korea and appears in Iran from an unknown source. Italy outbreak begins.

February 24: The Trump administration asks Congress for $1.25 billion to assist people affected by the situation.

February 29: The U.S. records its first death caused by the virus and announces travel restrictions.

MARCH 2020

March 11: WHO declares the outbreak a pandemic.

March 13: 45th U.S. President Donald Trump declares a Federal State of Emergency. Schools release students for an early spring break. Many schools shut down for the rest of the school year.

March 19: China reports no new locally spread infections for the first time since the pandemic began.

March 31: More than one-third of humanity is under some form of lockdown.

APRIL 2020

April 2: The world surpasses 1 million COVID-19 infections.

Mid-April: COVID-19 is still an ongoing pandemic.

The New Normal

Don't touch your face

Cough into your elbow

Wear a mask if you are sick

Make sure your mask is secure

Use hand sanitizer

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds

Source: *BusinessInsider.com, World Health Organization and NBCNews.com, CNN.com, CBS.com and ABCNews.com*

Lifetouch

COVID in College Park

Kermit the Frog and his creator Jim Henson share a couple Coronas and chat like old times during the pandemic.

A worker at the UMD Campus Pantry dons a mask and gloves to stay healthy and hygienic amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Construction on Route 1 resumes like clockwork with the addition of face coverings.

Isolation Leading to Desolation

Businesses urge six feet of space between customers waiting outside for health and safety reasons aka social distancing.

The university closed down the engineering field during the statewide lockdown. Playing sports inherently requires close proximity, and general guidelines advise against doing so to prevent virus transmission.

Economic Turmoil

Per Governor Larry Hogan's stay-at-home order, effective for PG County through June 1, Board and Brew closed its doors, losing vital revenue.

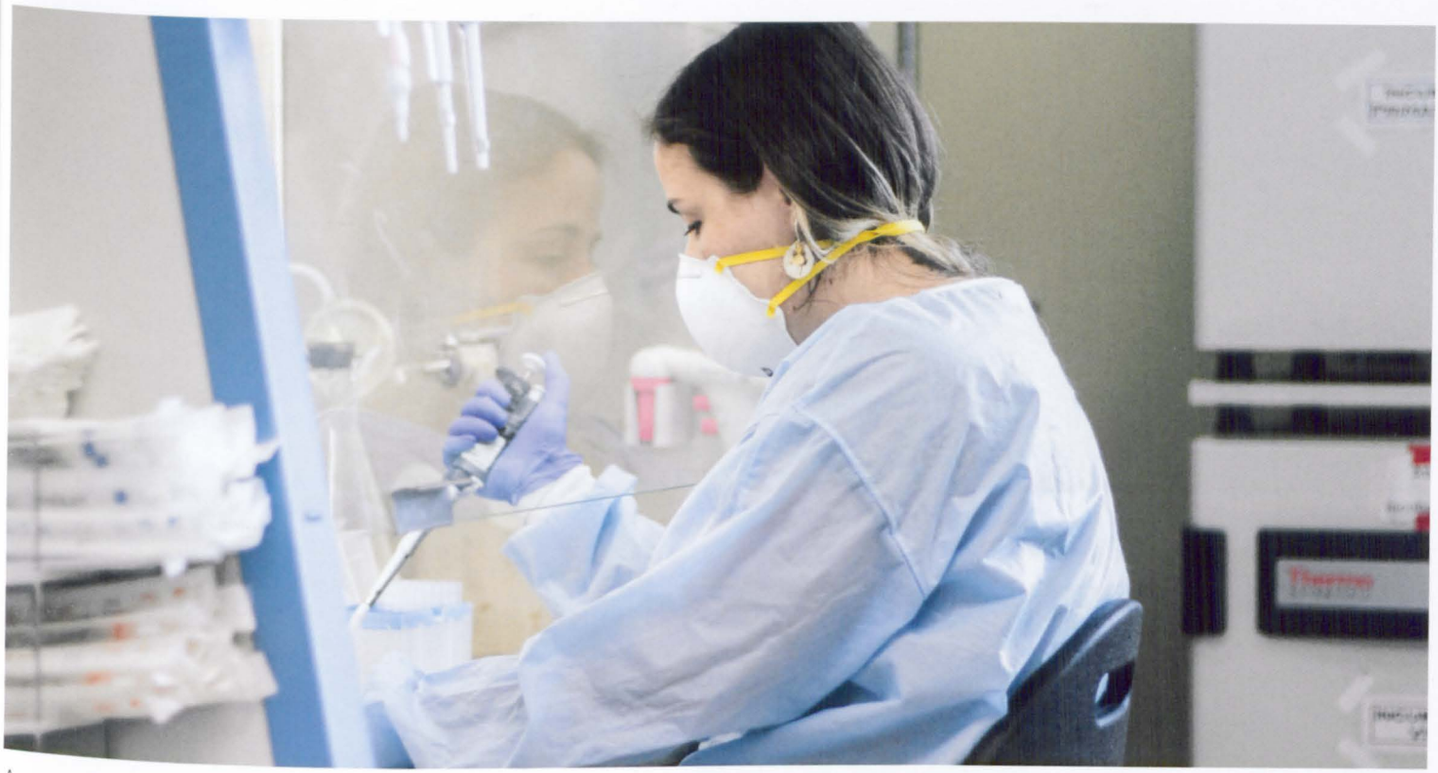
The Burger King on Route 1 was foreclosed, making way for a new student housing complex that has been rumored since March 2019.

Back to Business

Longtime College Park bike shop Proteus Bicycles opened after over a month of closure. Customers maintain social distancing

As of June 4. Proteus Bicycles owner Laurie re-opened her shop for major repairs and tuneups only. limiting browsing customers as the virus ling

Research Carries On



A researcher in a local lab experiments with compounds in search of a cure for COVID.

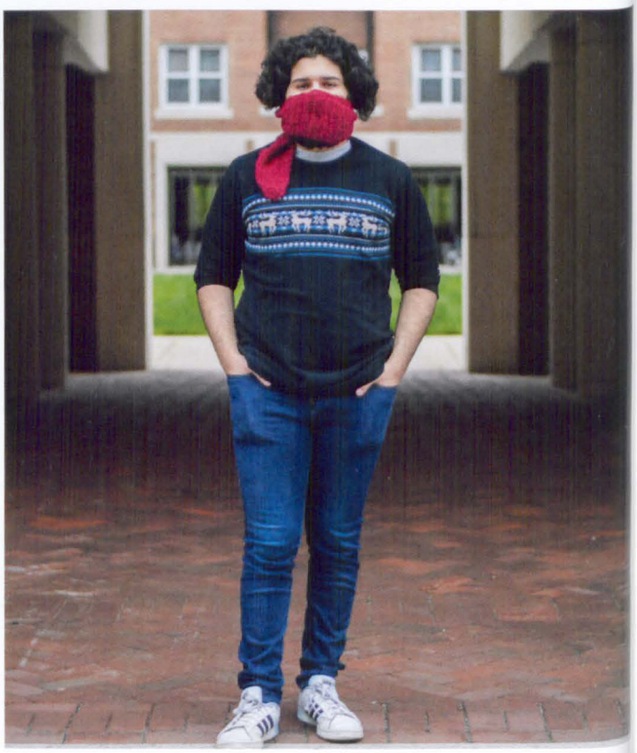
The two laboratory workers pose for a picture, leaving the facial expressions beneath their mask up to the imagination.

Pandemic Photography

Diamondback staffer Evan Kramer poses with a blank diploma frame filled instead with the phrase, "See you this winter."

A construction worker wears a face covering on the worksite.

Laurie of Proteus Bicycles poses in front of her assorted bike racks.



Senior Arya Hodjat is photographed for Looking Back, the Diamondback's senior edition publication

Senior Connor Senay stands in front of Korean restaurant Anju in Washington D.C. as he awaits his takeout order.

What happens when a movement demanding unity and assembly of the masses occurs in the thick of the spread of a deadly virus?

Protest in a Pandemic: College Park

A College Park police officer hands a case of water to one of the protest drive staff members to later be given to protest organizers.

Snacks and other supplies are dumped from their store boxes into larger rubber bins for easier, more efficient transport to the sites of protest.

Protest drive coordinator Ally O'Reilly unloads Pop Tarts into a larger container for delivery to the protest organizers.

Supplies accumulate as the protest drive carries on throughout the day.

Heart of the Action: PG County

A protester holds up a sign at the National Harbor during a Black Lives Matter protest in Prince George's County and Virginia on June 6, 2020. (Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

Protesters crossed the bridge's pedestrian path, with some passing drivers showing support by honking their horns and raising closed fists out of their windows. (Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

MY ANCESTORS STARTED THIS WAR TO BETTER ME, AND I'M GOING TO END IT BEFORE MY KIDS ENTER IT
IF WE CAN'T
CALL ME SELFISH ALL YOU WANT, THE PANDEMIC WILL NOT STOP ME FROM PROTESTING BECAUSE I WOULD RATHER DIE FROM A DISEASE THAN
MY PEOPLE

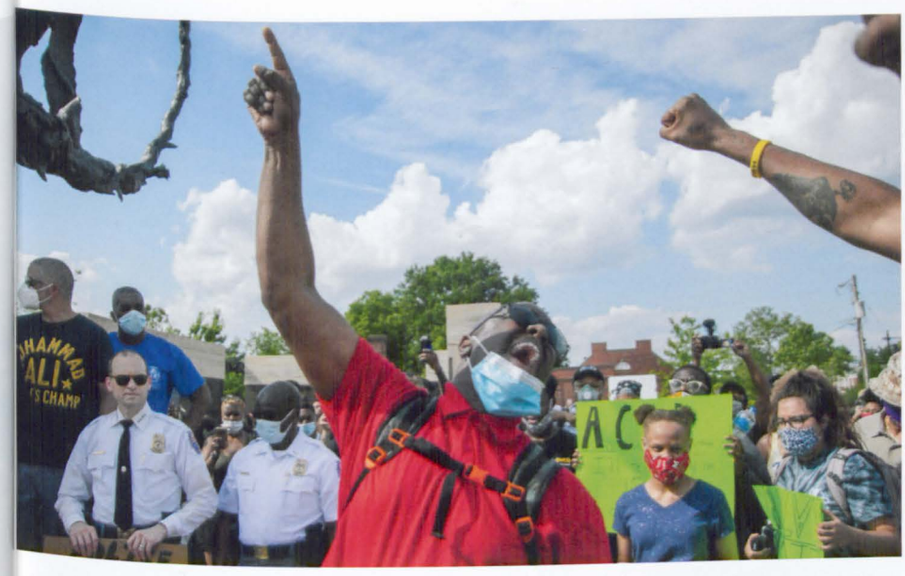
Closed fists and signs urging an end to this race war spoke volumes without physically saying a word.

An aerial view of protestors marching along a footpath. (Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

Another aerial view of protesters. (Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

(Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

(Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)



(Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

(Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

(Joe Ryan / The Diamondback)

Fists Up

(Eric Harkleroad / The Diamondback)

(Eric Harkleroad / The Diamondback)

(Eric Harkleroad / The Diamondback)

Car Paint #BlackLivesMatter

(Eric Harkleroad / The Diamondback)

(Eric Harkleroad / The Diamondback)

Academics

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Moments in UMD Academia: The Nefarious and Hilarious

Academia is not for the faint of heart. In college, those too afraid of the sea of knowledge choose to stay put in their dorm rooms. If only they knew the mishaps and general buffoonery they would be missing out on

I asked my fellow seniors what their wildest academic moments were over their four (+/-) years at Maryland. Here are their eyewitness accounts of classroom calamity.

"I saw a classmate projectile vomit several times on the last day of class."

"Our Physics 2 final room was so hot that everyone got sweat stains on their exam, and one girl fainted."

"This kid walked into my final, ripped a Juul and threw it across the lecture hall to his friend."

"I wrote a midterm about Twilight and got an A"

"My freshman year in Calc 1, a girl walked into our Friday morning class shitfaced for a quiz. She sat through all of the lecture yelling at her friend, and the professor decided to cancel the quiz."

"On the first day of COMM401, our professor played the presidential walk music, the kind you would hear at an inauguration, and walked down the huge lecture hall aisle and then came to the podium and gave a speech. Instead of explaining the syllabus, he just spoke about his perception of life and how we can benefit from the class by making a difference in the world. It was comical but had a deeper meaning and was very unexpected."

To check off "act a fool in class" from my bucket list, my friend Molly and I dressed up like the "rat" characters from the movie Delicatessen for our French movie presentation, donning hazmat suits and dark goggles. We received an A+ on the presentation, but our control of the French language certainly wasn't perfect, so you do the math.

We went to class more or less willing to learn, yet we dreamed about the day where the perfect distraction unraveled class into pure chaos. Those who lived it can recall those memories with a bittersweet nostalgia. What would lecture be without a bit of hilarity mixed in?

Crowning Achievements

Merrill College's Howard Center and NPR Team Up, Investigate Rising Urban Heat

Sept. 6, 2019

by Maryland Today

University of Maryland journalists Sean Mussenden, Amina Lampkin and Maris Medina interview McElderry Park resident Lorraine Diggs. Below, an infographic shows a Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) thermal imaging camera reading from the 500 block of North Milton Street on Aug. 1 at 11:20 a.m.

The first project by the new Howard Center for Investigative Journalism, exploring the effects of rising temperatures on the health and lives of the residents of urban heat islands in Baltimore, premiered Tuesday on Baltimore's WMAR-TV, NPR and the Associated Press.

A joint project with NPR, "Code Red: Baltimore's Climate Divide" brought together professional reporters and students in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism with experts in the A. James Clark School of Engineering, School of Public Health and School of Public Policy as well as the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore.

Led by center Director Kathy Best and Capital News Service Managing Director Marty Kaiser, the months-long investigation examined the price that residents of "urban heat islands" pay, whether in chronic illnesses, higher crime rates or poverty. The findings were presented in stories, photos, graphics, videos and interactives.

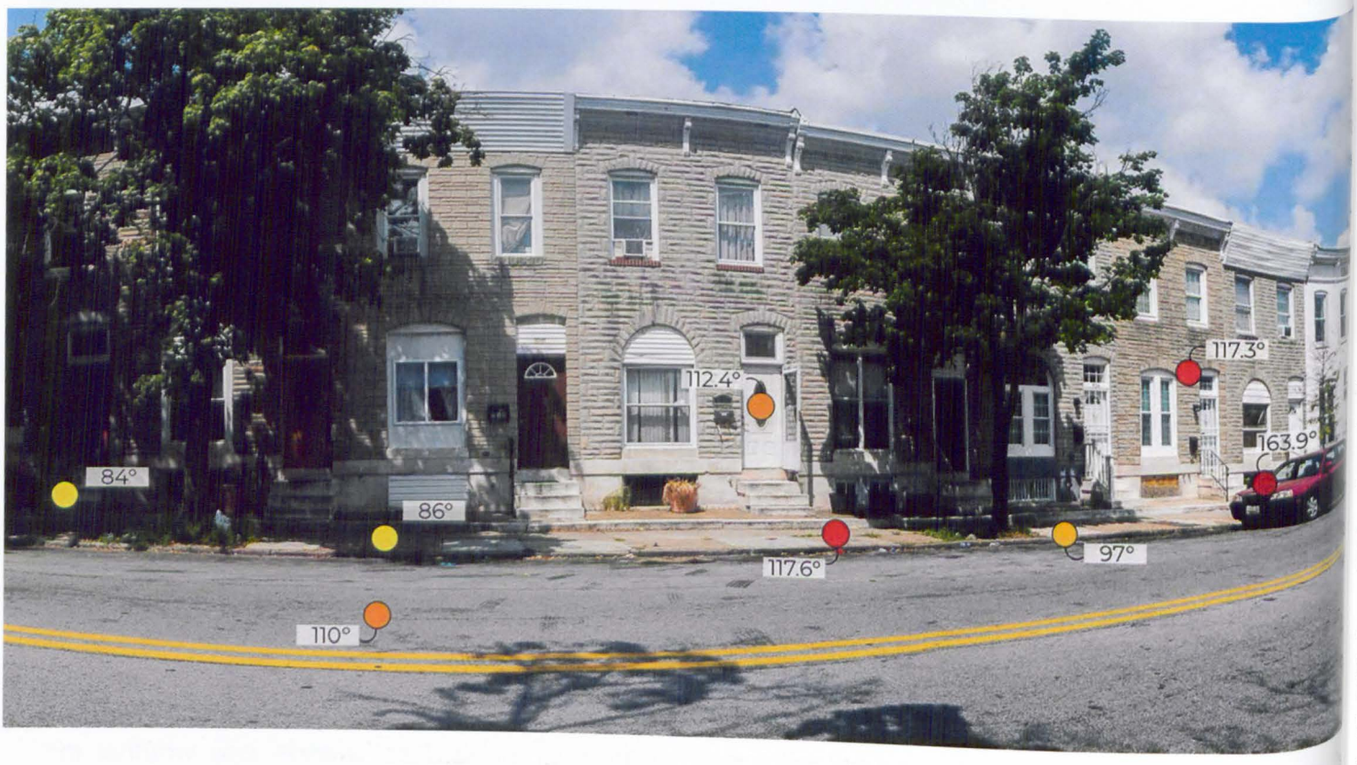
"In addition to the students who will have bylines and credits for their work, I am grateful th Kathy joined us in May and helped an unbelievably talented and dedicated faculty team produce this terrific debut student project," said Merrill College Dean Lucy A. Dalglish.

Stories have aired on NPR's "All Things Considered" and "Morning Edition" this week. Othe parts have been distributed by the AP and picked up by The New York Times, The Washington Post and other national news organizations.

On Thursday, The Baltimore Sun published the full project.

An abridged print version of the series will be distributed in the Baltimore neighborhoods where students conducted their reporting, and at the center's events this fall.

The project was supported by the Scripps Howard Foundation and grants from the Park Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Online News Association's Challenge Fund for Innovation in Journalism Education, as well as from Merrill College's Capital New Service and Wide Angle Youth Media in Baltimore.



These colored data points indicate the temperature of certain areas and surfaces along a Washington D.C. street.

UMD Medalists Show Excellence In & Beyond Classroom

Clockwise from upper left: Kristen Edwards, finalist; Tanay Wakhare, medalist; Shifali Mathews, finalist; Emily Jaffe, finalist; Megan Gaines, finalist; Michael Nastac, medalist.

The highest honor the University of Maryland bestows on an undergraduate, the University Medal is awarded at each spring commencement to the graduate or graduates who best personify academic distinction, extraordinary character and extracurricular contributions to UMD and the larger community.

Two medalists have been selected this year: Michael Nastac, a physics and mathematics double-degree student, and Tanay Wakhare, who earned degrees in computer science and mathematics.

Michael Nastac—Medalist

The path Nastac set off on while watching Carl Sagan's television series "Cosmos" as a child has taken him through some of the most prestigious laboratories in the world and led him to the cusp of a bright career in physics.

"Michael is brilliant, driven, friendly, charming, collaborative, and yet also appropriately competitive," said physics Professor William Dorland. "Clearly, he isn't the traditional 'student leader' type. He is a scientific leader, already establishing himself as a world-class intellectual force."

A Banneker/Key Scholar from Pittsburgh, Nastac came to UMD delving into magnetic confinement nuclear fusion and its potential to revolutionize the field of sustainable energy. He began researching plasma turbulence both at UMD and at the University of Oxford, working to construct simple mathematical models that could be handled by present-day computers and help resolve one of the great conundrums of nuclear fusion: the energy input to current fusion reactors is greater than the energy put out by them.

"He never needs someone else to instill a sense of urgency in him," said Alexander A. Schekochihin, professor of theoretical physics and fellow of Merton College at the University of Oxford. "He is clever, quick on the uptake, industrious, independent, communicative, articulate (and) extremely well educated."

Nastac is graduating with a 3.99 GPA. He won a poster prize at the 2019 Sherwood Fusion Theory Conference; gave talks at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, the University of Oxford and the 12th Plasma Kinetics Working Meeting at the Wolfgang Pauli Institute in Vienna, Austria; and is first author of an upcoming publication in the Journal of Plasma Physics.

Next year, Nastac will be a Clarendon Scholar at the University of Oxford, pursuing a doctorate in theoretical physics. He plans to continue pursuing solutions to the world's energy crisis and also wants to teach; as a member of the Foundations Learning and Mentorship Experience (FLAME) program, Nastac taught after-school science lessons to students at Adelp Elementary School.

"It feels incredibly rewarding to see how much fun these young students are having by learning about the same topics tha inspired me to pursue science," he said. "In graduate school and beyond, I want to continue mentoring others, paying forward what I've received from my mentors."

Tanay Wakhare—Medalist

A voracious reader and dreamer who had an unsettled childhood that stretched across three continents and four U.S. states, Wakhare finally found the freedom he was looking for at the University of Maryland.

Not only did he grow into a promising scholar of mathematics and computer science, but he also discovered himself in al the ways college makes possible.

"I pulled all-nighters talking in freshman dorms, I took quantum physics, I classified bones in a zooarchaeology lab, I backpacked through Europe on my own," he said. "I spent a year exploring every nook and cranny of campus, and fondly remember watching the sunrise from the roof of the McKeldin Library."

A Banneker/Key, Goldwater and Churchill Scholar, Wakhare earned a 3.96 GPA and a host of university honors, including the Dan Shanks Award from the Department of Mathematics and the J.R. Dorfman Prize for Undergraduate Research.

"He is one of the top undergraduates I have known in my 46 years of teaching," said mathematics Professor Lawrence C. Washington. "I feel like I am talking with a professional mathematician rather than with an undergraduate."

In fields ranging from number theory to mathematical physics, Wakhare has authored multiple papers and worked at institutions including the University of Queensland, Dalhousie University, the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis and the Center for Nanoscale Research at the National Institute for Standards and Technology.

"Tanay Wakhare is an exceptionally talented young mathematician, by far the best student I have ever met in my career," said Professor Christophe Vignat of Paris-Sud University. "He has a very promising future in mathematics and should quickly be part of the leading scientific community of his country."

Fascinated by artificial intelligence, Wakhare wants to bring more rigorous mathematical principles to the AI world, such a constructing machine learning models that can train on biased datasets without simultaneously mirroring their flaws. He w pursue a master's degree in advanced computer science at the University of Cambridge as a Churchill Scholar before heading to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to work on a doctorate in theoretical computer science.

Kristen Edwards—Finalist

Edwards was the first in her family to go to college, and she came to UMD with a dedication to helping underserved communities. A Banneker/Key scholar graduating with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a 3.98 GPA, Edwards will pursue a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, studying how to address climate change and water insecurity through machine learning.

At UMD, Edwards is part of a team that developed a 3D-printed, soft robotic hand in the Bioinspired Advanced Manufacturing Lab. She also designed a machine-learning program at the Anderson Lab at Cornell University to predict New York state power-grid emissions.

"Her innate ability to take charge and lead her peers in executing research projects has resulted in a level of productivity that is truly uncommon at any stage," said Ryan Sochol, assistant professor of mechanical engineering.

The winner of the Spirit of Maryland Award and A. James Clark School of Engineering Dean's Award, Edwards said her proudest accomplishment was providing college advice to first-generation students and families through the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers.

"As I continue in my life and education, I know I am not only chasing my own dreams, but acting as a guide to help others chase theirs," she said.

Megan Gaines—Finalist

Earning a double degree in biological sciences and psychology with a 4.0 GPA, Gaines excelled in the UMD classroom. But she expended just as much effort outside of it, from working as a tour guide on campus to tutoring fourth graders and volunteering as an infant cuddler with Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital.

"Megan is an amazing person," said Sabrina Kramer, associate director of the Integrated Life Sciences Program in the Honors College. "She is brilliant, hardworking and cares so much for the people around her."

A Banneker/Key Scholar and member of the Omicron Delta Kappa Honors Society, Gaines won the Integrated Life Sciences Service Award, volunteered with MobileMed, and spent two years assisting with research at the National Institutes of Children's Health and Development. She plans to spend the next year working with the AmeriCorps Literacy Lab to help kindergarten and elementary school students reach grade-level reading standards. After that, Gaines will apply to medical school.

Emily Jaffe—Finalist

From running campus recruitment drives for bone marrow and blood stem cell registries to volunteering on a medical mission to Ghana, Jaffe has used her UMD career to deepen her interests in biology and global health.

Jaffe, who has been interning at Gryphon Scientific in Takoma Park since February researching public health issues including the genetics of coronaviruses, is graduating with a degree in biological sciences and a 4.0 GPA.

"It is not easy to achieve Emily's academic record and remain so consistently committed to serving others," said Susannah Washburn, director of the College Park Scholars Public Leadership Program and associate clinical professor in the School of Public Policy. "Overall, Emily is whip-smart, caring, calm, persistent and incredibly hardworking."

Jaffe has also been a research assistant at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, and the Linda Joy Pollin Cardiovascular Wellness Center for Women at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. A volunteer elementary school tutor with the Turtles and Eagles Science Club, she will be attending the Sackler School of Medicine in Tel Aviv, Israel.

"I am certain that with the strong foundation I have built at UMD, I am well positioned to take on new educational, community and global challenges that I will face," she said.

Shifali Mathews—Finalist

The daughter of Indian immigrants, Shifali Mathews is building toward a career in research and policy that will not only help her family's homeland but populations all over the world that are vulnerable to health impacts of the changing clima

Mathews is a member of the first class of UMD's new accelerated B.S.-M.P.H. program, concentrating in environmental health sciences, graduating with a degree in public health science and 3.966 GPA. A Philip Merrill Presidential Scholar and president of the Alpha Epsilon Honorary Society, she also participated in Global Fellows and the Gemstone Honors College program.

"Shifali is mature, flexible and able to engage with and adapt to new cultures and environments," said Joan Burton, director of the Federal and Global Fellows programs and Individual Studies Program. "(She) is poised to take leadership and help solve some of the most challenging health issues of our time."

Mathews worked in several federal government offices as an undergraduate, including as a health equity fellow with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Justice. She also spent 18 months as an intern with the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, doing outreach with the Black Lungs Clinics Program to coal miners with terminal conditions.

She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in environmental epidemiology and find sustainable solutions to climate-related global healt issues.

"UMD's dedication to sustainability and proximity to the nation's capital empowered my mission to advance environmenta and climate justice," Mathews said.

Sprinter: UMD Alumni Create a Way to Learn through Life's Disruptions

by Connor Senay

Quarantine has left many feeling isolated and unmotivated. Stay-at-home orders and the general closure of society have limited people's natural inkling to explore new places and learn new information. This is where Sprinter comes in to jog the mind.

Sprinter is an initiative started by three graduating seniors: Alex Bergman, business major and 3-time member of the Dean's Student Advisory Council; Ankit Sheth, finance major and business school commencement speaker; and Jordan Mess, computer science major who received a full Banneker-Key scholarship. The team had been discussing the disruptive nature of COVID to the education space, especially as online classes became less engaging and effective. "The initial concept started here: we wanted to create a community that would encourage people to keep learning through the days of quarantine. We also saw quarantine as a time to learn fun, new things you wouldn't typically, which is why we learn through such a random assortment of topics."

The name Sprinter came naturally because the original concept was to learn in Sprints, an agile method in the tech and business world that quantifies work done in a given period. Calling members of their online community Sprinters was another level of appeal.

Ankit Sheth (top left), Jordan Mess (top right) and Alex Bergman (bottom) wave at each other in a Zoom meeting, a GIF that is featured on the Sprinter home page.

The development process has kept the team quite busy.

"Our original idea was actually quite different from Sprinter today. Our beta test was more community-focused, with the initial idea being that each sprinter member learns a sub-topic, and makes a deliverable to share with the group. We quickly learned this was hard to scale quickly, and wanted to make an impact as fast as possible. So, the email idea was born and we ran with that (no pun intended)."

Since then, the central question has been, "How do we make the most engaging emails for our subscribers," both from a content and graphic design standpoint.

"If you go back to the first emails, it's cool to see how much the style has changed with incorporating user feedback and using industry best practices."

sprinter

In solidarity with the protests and movements across the country and world this week, we are muting our regularly scheduled content.

To promote company growth, the team is adding a couple of new positions: Head of Marketing and Head of Content Development. So far, they've seen consistent growth in user base and content enrichment because the more people on the platform, the better. To get their "Sprinters" more immersed, they plan on crowdsourcing ideas through Sprint Lead and Sprint Consultant positions.

"The lead is someone from the community who structures out the sprint (what subtopics, sources, etc.). The consultant is a subject-matter expert who gives input on what to include and how. There's plenty to do growth-wise, and we're excited to see what the future holds!"

TerpMatch

How Brandon Ferrell's Brainchild Became a Campus-Wide Sensation

by Connor Senay

7,500 users. 9,000 matches. 37,000 names typed in. Those were the statistics of TerpMatch in its first phase. Brandon Ferrell, computer science major and recent graduate of UMD, got the idea to build a light-hearted Terps dating platform after hearing about a similar concept at Dartmouth called Last Chances.

In a last-ditch effort to find love, students have access to TerpMatch for the last two weeks of every semester. It is limited to UMD students as they must register with their umd.edu emails.

Per the TerpMatch site, "Matches are made by crushing on someone, which is done by you typing their first and last name into a box. Your crush does not get a notification that you did this until they type yours back and you match. Thats it, no chat box, no phone number given out. Find out how to contact your crushes on your own. But be aware... there are no takebacks or unmatches.

Ferrell's TerpMatch has been featured in the Diamondback, the Washington Post and on Fox5 DC among other news outlets.

Phase Two of TerpMatch took place at the end of the Spring 2020 semester aka the quarantine days, and the site is still open to decipher crushes and make matches.

Stats from the most recent phase are incalculable as the platform continues to accept inputs.

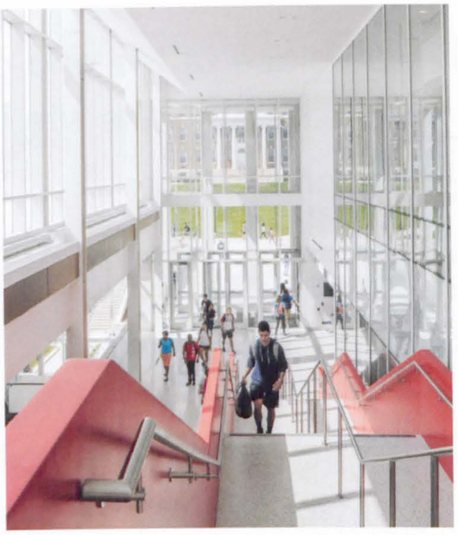
After tackling this passion project, which he created from scratch in just six hours, Ferrell sees himself working in web development.

"Even a company like Tinder would be cool. I knew web development beforehand, but it was the first time I launched my own website. I'm planning on making a Bachelor-style dating app in the coming weeks if time permits," he said.

Campus Life

by Olivia Mandell

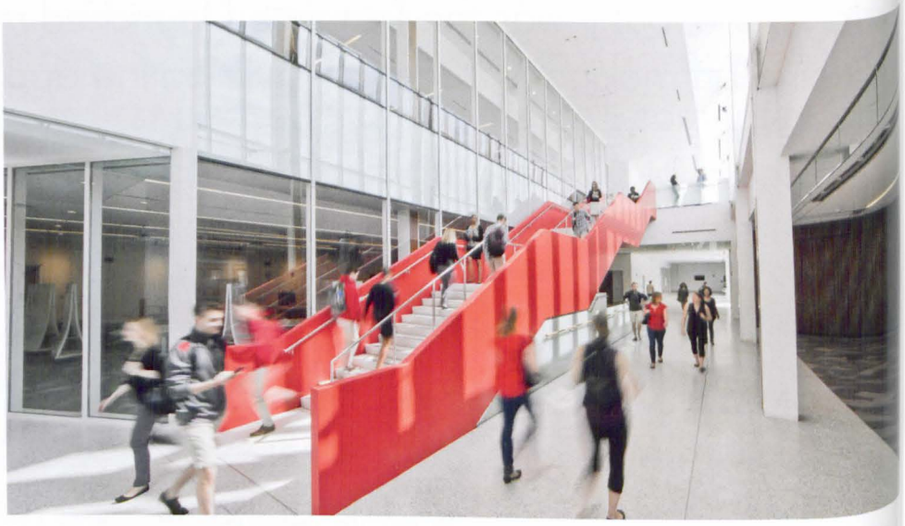
As a senior, huge differences can be seen from the first experience of orientation all the way to virtual graduation. Walking across campus every day for four years would eventually get stale, but UMD found a way to keep us on our toes throughout it all!



The interior of the Edward St. John building from the top of the staircase. (Photo by ASG-Architects)

A look at the lounge / work area seating in one of the main corridors of the ESJ building. (Photo by ASG-Architects)

Amidst the constant construction, we were still able to witness the opening of the beautiful ESJ building and Iribe Center for Computer Science and Engineering. Some were lucky enough to have classes in these state-of-the-art facilities. For others, they got to witness the addition of technologically advanced classrooms with touchscreen white boards.



The inside of the Edward St. John Learning Center.

With all of these changes, UMD continued its path of leadership as a prominently fearless and innovative university.

The exterior of the Brendan Iribe Center for Computer Science and Engineering.

Seniors have also seen campus life evolve and expand through vast improvements to our college town! Four years have brought an assortment of exciting restaurants and places to visit with friends. While seniors unfortunately did not get to enjoy the annual senior bar crawl, they still were able to enjoy all the new forms of entertainment that arose around College Park like Bowlero and MilkBoy Arthouse. UMD has become even more of a family-friendly university with its own hotel and various workspaces that have bloomed around the area.

A student-led walkout in the weeks after Trump was elected president to protest his presidency.

Construction brought about the beginnings of the Purple Line to UMD's campus. Decisions such as this have made it evident that the university is seeking to braoden its connections with the rest of the DMV community. While not directly in the heart of D.C., UMD has still found ways of making its students feel linked to the city and the opportunities that come with it. Seniors have appreciated the endless oportunities granted from living so close to such a predominantly youthful professional area, pushing us to stay close to College Park upon graduation.

As UMD continued to expand its community reach, it also came head-to-head with meaningful social issues, prompting the university to take a stand. The 2016 election paved the way for current seniors to spend the entirety of this administration a mere thirty minutes away from Washington. On account of this political climate, seniors witnessed UMD use its voice to address pressing topics that affected its entire campus community.

Through both the ups and downs, the UMD community has taken a journey over the past four years that the class of 2020 was lucky enough to witness. These experiences and the lessons learned from them will stay with graduates forever as they forge their futures, wearing the metaphorical badge of honor presented to UMD alumni.

Thank you to all the seniors who have made positive contributions to campus, rendering it a safe and uplifting educational and social environment.

Work In Progress

This is a section dedicated to detailing the constant evolution of life on campus. Here, we examine construction of academic buildings, dorms and the introduction of new technologies, analyzing their impacts on student life.

Cole Fieldhouse

When the $155 million plan for the expansion of the historic Cole Field House was announced in 2014, University President Wallace Loh called the undertaking "a signature project for our entire institution." Kevin Plank, UMD alumnus and founder and executive chairman of Under Armour, donated $25 million to the university to kickstart the renovations.

Construction began in 2016, coinciding with the arrival of many members of the class of 2020. Much like the Purple Line project on Campus Drive, most of us can't remember Cole Field House without scaffolding, jackhammers and the constant hum of a work site.

Once finished, the expanded field house will include not just a state-of-the-art practice and training facility, but also the Terrapin Performance Center, the Center for Sports Medicine and Health and Human Performance facilities. With a mix of athletic and academic purposes, administrators think the new complex will set UMD's football and academic programs apart from other schools.

What began as $155 million in costs has swelled to $210 million. Despite its growing bill, there has been obvious progress. The inside of the facility was mostly empty when Mike Locksley was introduced as football head coach in December 2018. Originally slated to open in 2019, the project has hit several delays. While the Class of 2020 didn't see the final product, we at least saw a shell of what is to come in the next year.

Despite the inconveniences, Athletic Director Damon Evans and head coach Mike Locksley see the new Cole Field House as a key to growing both the football program and UMD athletics as a whole.

Photo Credit: The Washington Post

MilkBoy: Here and Gone with the Class of 2020

Like most good things in life, MilkBoy ArtHouse's tenure in downtown College Park was short-lived. Rather poetically, the bar and performing arts venue arrived and left alongside the class of 2020.

A collaboration between Philly-based entertainment company MilkBoy and UMD's Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, MilkBoy ArtHouse opened in May 2017. It offered a newer, more mature nightlife option to the traditional bars. For people searching for a less-crowded and much less sweaty experience, MilkBoy came onto the scene.

With a restaurant-style seating area, two stages and three bars, the ArtHouse was as much a happy hour hotspot as it was a performing arts center. It provided a hub for local artists in an otherwise scarce College Park music scene. The venue housed everything from Sunday brunch to poetry and open-mic nights; from classical music performances to hip hop headliners like Earthgang (and, yes, Drake Bell).

Complementing The Clarice's slate of shows, MilkBoy was a focal point of pop culture on Route 1. Among other arts performances, many professionals spoke at the venue and gave insight to their field of work. For music lovers and students of any discipline, MilkBoy was a viable resource for learning.

In January, news broke that MilkBoy would be closing its doors. But while the bar itself closed, The Clarice's part in the venture allows Clarice-produced shows to go on in the space.

"We will continue to present performing arts by national and international creative innovators and artists at this location," the Clarice announced in a joint statement with MilkBoy on its website in January.

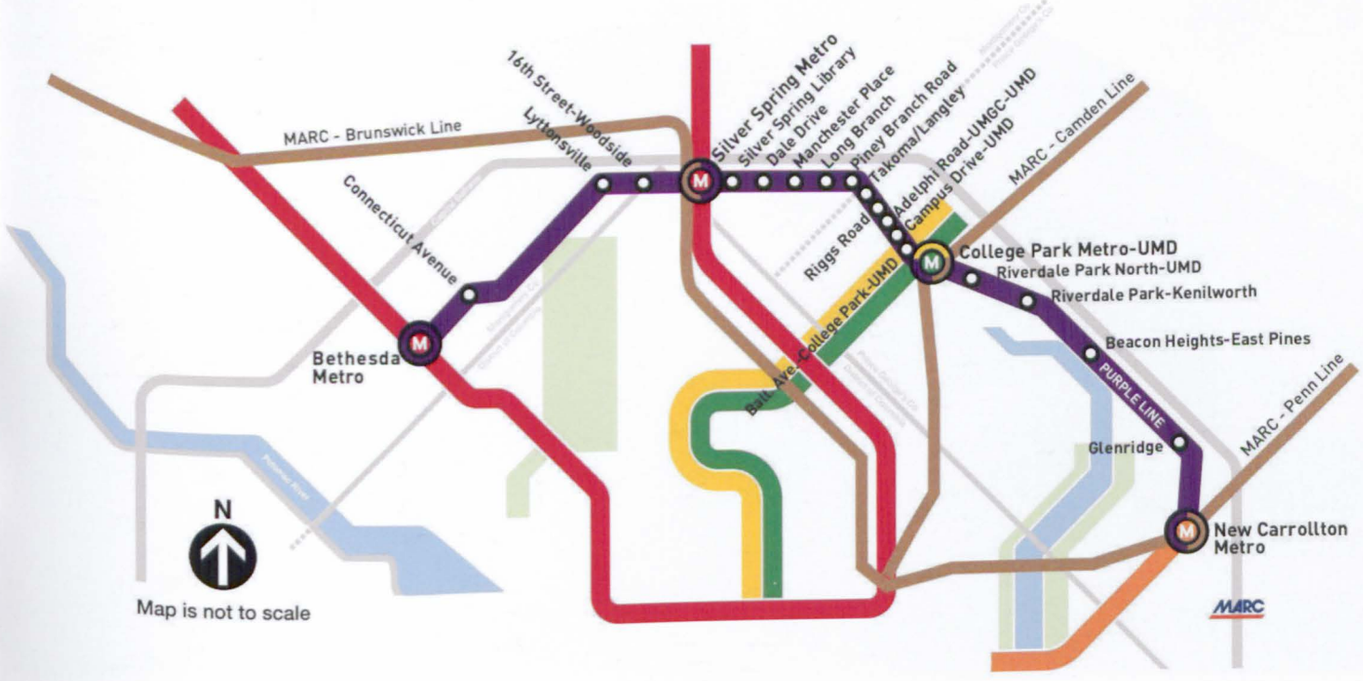
Likewise, MilkBoy thanked College Park for its time and welcoming attitude, while stating it will continue "providing our customers with the best experience serving excellent food and drink with great entertainment" at its Philadelphia locations.

Even without MilkBoy around, the shows will go on.

Photo from an Injury Reserve show at MilkBoy Arthouse in September 2019.

Purple Line

The class of 2020 can hardly imagine Campus Drive without construction, thanks to the recently-built Edward St. John Learning and Teaching Center, the new Cole Field House, and now the Purple Line, too. With a future Metro stop where the historic "M Circle" now stands, the Purple Line will eventually connect Bethesda and New Carrolton.



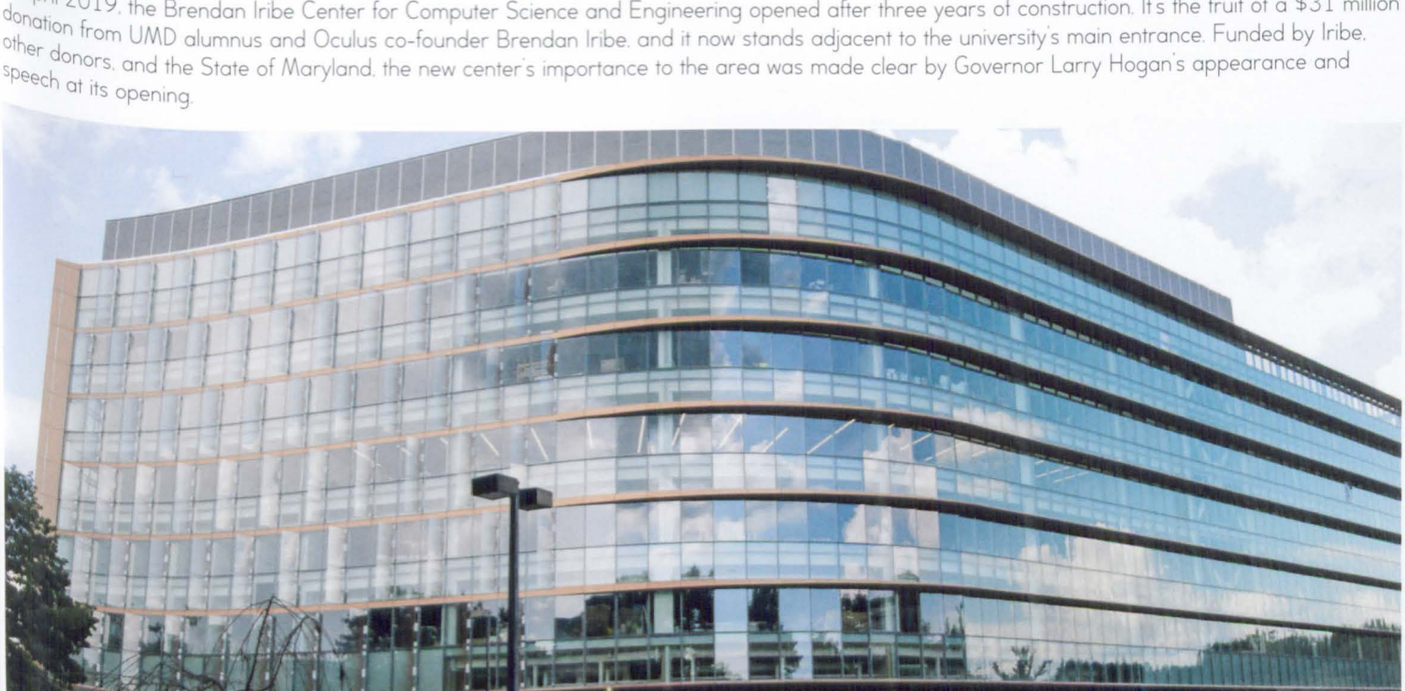
Once the above-ground light rail is up and running, there will be five stops that are free for university students, faculty and staff. That fare-free zone will include stops near Cole Field House, Route 1, University of Maryland University College, the Discovery District, and the College Park Metro Station. The new rail will allow students to hop on and off around campus for free and provide easy access to other areas outside of College Park.

With the goal of opening in late 2022, there is still some rearranging to be done on campus. The "M Circle," an iconic fixture at the heart of campus will be moved from the middle of the Campus Drive traffic circle to a safer location in the Engineering Fields. A new bike path will open along the road, and campus parking lots will be shuffled to make up for lost space.

While the construction has certainly caused some congestion, the Purple Line will give members of the UMD community easier, cheaper options for getting around the campus and city. If four years here have taught me anything, it's that I'll believe in the Purple Line when I see it.

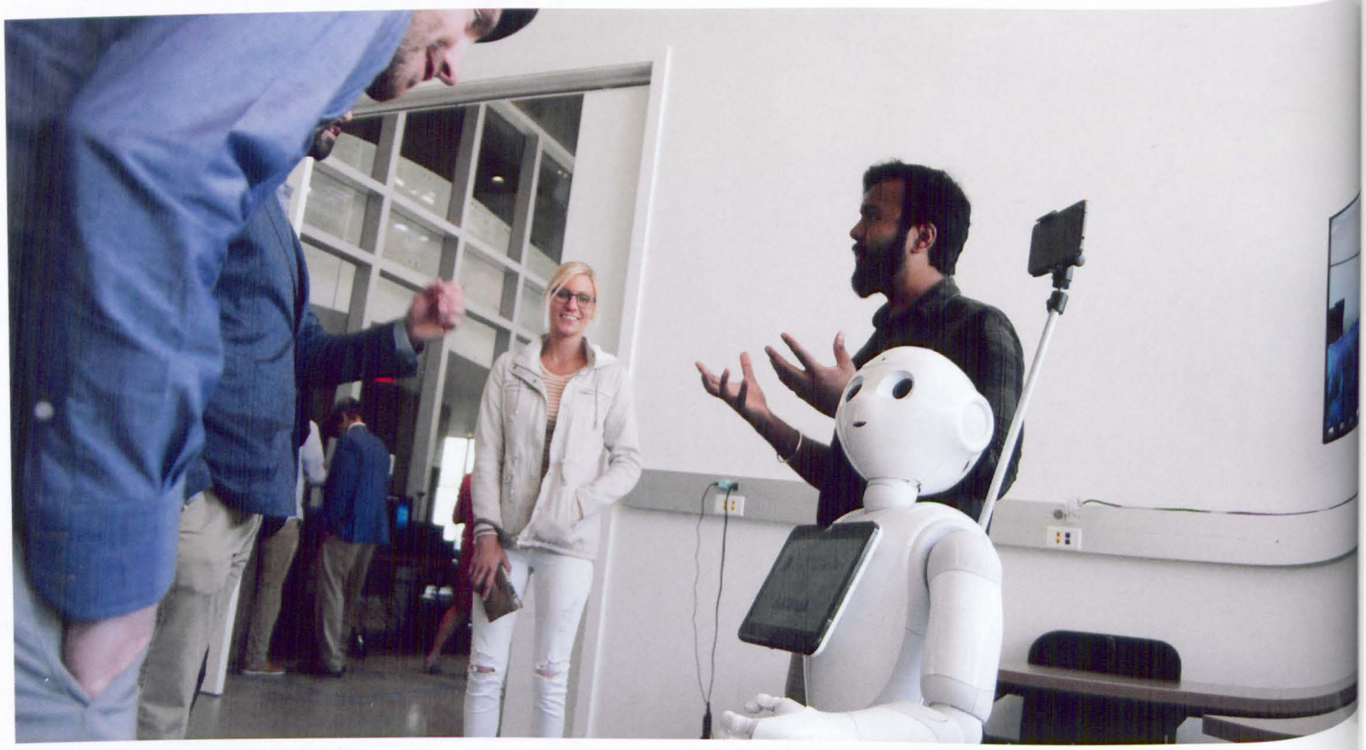
Brendan Iribe Center for Comp. Sci. / Engineering

In April 2019, the Brendan Iribe Center for Computer Science and Engineering opened after three years of construction. It's the fruit of a $31 million donation from UMD alumnus and Oculus co-founder Brendan Iribe, and it now stands adjacent to the university's main entrance. Funded by Iribe, other donors, and the State of Maryland, the new center's importance to the area was made clear by Governor Larry Hogan's appearance and speech at its opening.



With sleek glass running up six stories and encompassing 215,000 square feet, the Iribe Center is hard to miss. The structure is dedicated to natural lighting and open floor space to promote more modern and teamwork-based learning. Students can stop by the Breakpoint Cafe to recharge and grab a bite to eat. A rooftop garden, named after and dedicated to deceased alumnus and Oculus co-founder Andrew Reisse, caps off the structure.

It's fitting that the facility will be used partly for research in virtual (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technology, something Iribe worked on at Oculus. The state-of-the-art Iribe Center is complete with auditoriums, research labs, and makerspaces. Oculus co-founder Michael Antonov also donated to the center, and has a 298-seat auditorium named after him in the new building. Also included is the Maryland Robotics Center.

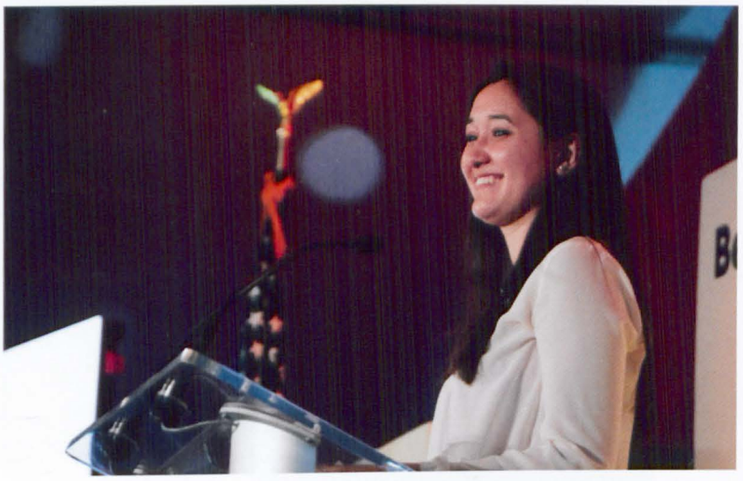


The new facility will be used by the university's Department of Computer Science and the Institute for Advanced Computer Studies, both of which are nationally renowned. In addition to VR and AR research, the facility will be used for work in "artificial intelligence, robotics, computer vision, algorithms, programming languages and systems," according to the Iribe Center website.

Photos from The Iribe Center Grand Opening

Brendan Iribe gives a speech at the grand opening of the computer science and engineering center built in his namesake.

Iribe sits alongside Governor Larry Hogan while listening to a speech.



Computer science student gives a speech at the Iribe Center grand opening.

A look at the state-of-the-art lighting and architecture present on the interior of the Iribe Center.

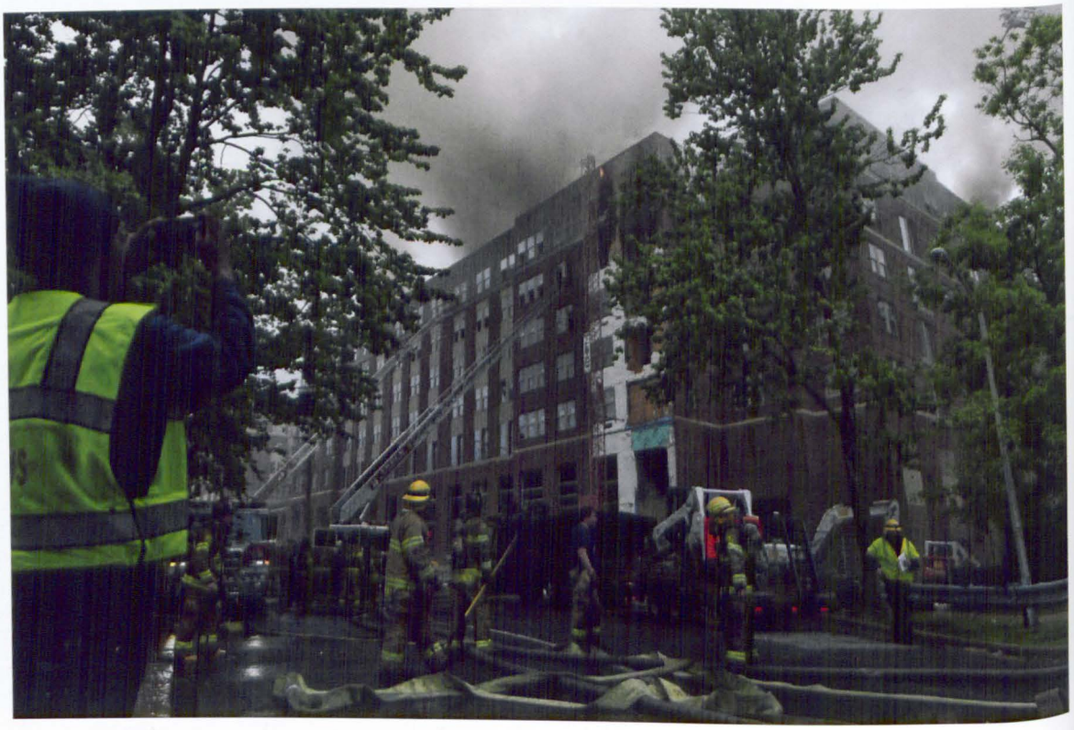
The cutting of the LED ribbon. From left: Amitabh Varshney, Mike Miller, Gov. Larry Hogan, Brendan Iribe, Michael Antonov.

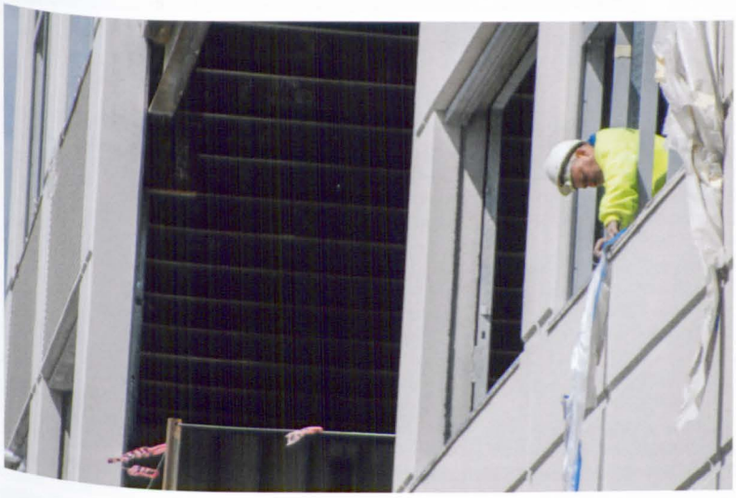
Ongoing Construction: When Disaster Strikes

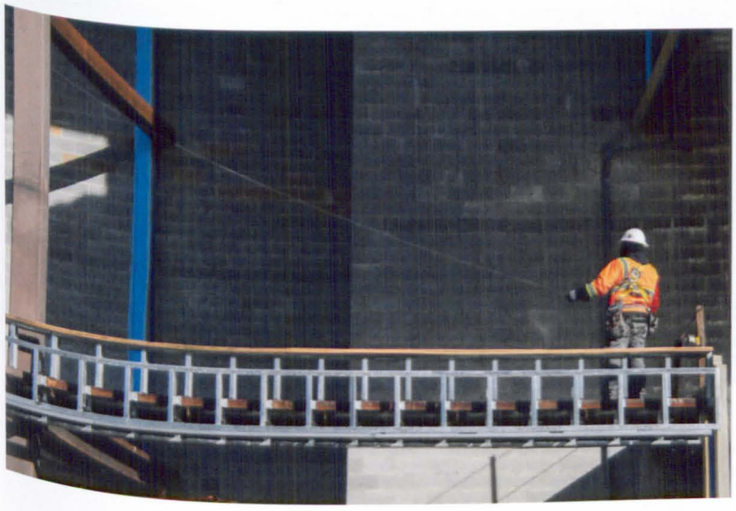
by Suzi Marsh

Something all University of Maryland students can relate to is the constant construction taking place on such an expansive campus, stretching into the town of College Park as well as it attempts to diversify its offerings to students with a special focus on more housing options. Typically, this construction goes on for a little longer than anticipated with no major bumps along the way.

But one of the greatest cases of irony the Class of 2020 saw was the burning down of the Fuse 47 apartment site. During a 5-alarm fire, this apartment complex burned down in April of 2017, before any residents lived in it. The only thing that remained from this fire was the parking garage, which was not impacted. The building itself was scheduled to open in July of 2017, and the fire cost the building $39 million in damages. This apartment complex was supposed to be a luxury complex, aimed at providing families with pristine living conditions, starting at $1,545 a month.







After the tragic burning of the Fuse 47 apartment complex, developers immediately planned to rebuild the site, which ended up resulting in the luxury apartment complex called The Alloy. The Alloy was developed and built by Wood Partners, the same company that built Fuse 47. However, some students faced issues when looking for a place to live because The Alloy was so expensive and preferred to rent to families rather than college students. The Alloy includes 275 units and provides its residents with a luxury pool fitness center, bocce ball court and a pet spa.

Despite The Alloy being built, there is still a huge demand amongst college students for off-campus places to live. Because The Alloy does not particularly cater toward college students, there are tangible plans to build affordable apartment buildings on Route 1, in the same complex that Potbelly's Sandwich Works currently exists in. These construction plans have displaced a few restaurants, including the College Park favorite Marathon Deli, which is in the process of changing its location to a different spot on Route 1. With new housing options for students to live off-campus, College Park hopes to become a college town focused on providing residents with a more high end living experience.

STUDENTS at the "Fire the Liars Rally" in November 2018. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

PACKED WITH ACTIVISM

A look back at seven protests that defined the past four years.

By Connor Senay | @connorsenay | Staff writer

From the walkouts after the 2016 presidential election their freshman year to the Key of David counterprotest during their last full semester, our seniors have known a student body packed with activism. Here's a look at some of the moments of social advocacy that punctuated the class of 2020's time in college.

November 17, 2016: Post-election walkout

Some teachers canceled classes. Others came to class crying. Meanwhile, students staged a walkout.

Hundreds of students from various organizations gathered on McKeldin Mall wielding signs, megaphones and a whole lot of passion. Signs sported messages such as "Abolish White Supremacy" and "Brown is Beautiful." Protesters dressed in all black as a symbol of unity in the face of a presidency many of them feared would be riddled with injustice.

May 10, 2017: #A[DIFFERENT]UMD

In early 2017, following a string of incidents threatening minority students at this university, a noose was found in the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity chapter house. In response, members of ProtectUMD arranged a sit-in at the Main Administration Building to demand that university President Wallace Loh take action. When Linda Clement, then-student affairs vice president, came out instead, protesters claimed Loh was hiding and avoiding taking legitimate action.

So they marched to Loh's house.

As protesters reached the house, 10 University of Maryland Police officers prevented further entry onto the grounds with caution tape. Frustrated with not being taken seriously, the crowd dispersed and planned to reconvene for next steps.

November 5, 2018: Fire the Liars

On June 13, 2018, former Maryland offensive lineman Jordan McNair died from complications of heatstroke he suffered during a football practice 15 days prior. In September, an independent investigation into McNair's death found that university athletic trainers recognized the severity of his condition too late, and failed to properly treat it once they did.

Another investigation into the football program found that mismanagement of the athletic department — by Loh and athletic director Damon Evans, among others — allowed an abusive culture to take root.

Student groups organized a "Justice for Jordan" rally on Nov. 1, originally intending to protest head football coach DJ Durkin's reinstatement. But when he was fired, it became a rally in support of student-athletes — a message some students didn't support. The rally quickly devolved as protestors clashed with one another.

The following Monday, a rally to "Fire the Liars" took place. Twenty-four student groups assembled in front of McKeldin Library to protest the administration's lack of respect for and acknowledgment of its student body.

The coalition of student groups published a list with three demands for the university's administration and the Board of Regents and used the rally to reiterate those demands: that Loh remain committed to retiring, that his successor be selected with student input and that the regents be democratically elected through a process that involves students.

October 2, 2018: Brett Kavanaugh protest

About two years after a shift in national leadership came another pivotal — and controversial — moment for America: When U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy retired, a new justice had to be appointed.

After President Trump tapped Judge Brett Kavanaugh as Kennedy's successor, three women accused Kavanaugh of sexual assault in his high school and college years.

Days after Kavanaugh and one of his accusers, Christine Blasey Ford, testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee, students gathered on McKeldin Mall, hoisting a banner that read, "Solidarity Trumps Hate." The protest was organized by this university's International Socialist Organization chapter and co-hosted by the UMD Pride Alliance and Preventing Sexual Assault.

September 17, 2019: Key of David counterprotest

Hundreds of students came together in a loose ring surrounding two men and two boys, demonstrators from the Key of David Christian Center carrying signs with phrases such as "Jesus or Hellfire" and ridiculing Muslims, the LGBTQ community and women.

As the demonstrators derided members of the crowd, labeling them "whores" and asking them if they had been raped when they were younger, some students yelled back. Others threw their middle fingers up, thrusting them toward the demonstrators, while still others kissed and embraced each other, cheered on by the crowd.

"I've never seen UMD come together like this," Jasmine Green, a senior government and politics major, said at the time. "This is an eye-opener for me."

September 20, 2019: Climate strike

Days after confronting the Key of David Christian Center demonstrators, university students attended a global climate strike in Washington, D.C.

Starting at McKeldin Mall, the group of more than 100 student-activists marched a mile to the Metro station to head to D.C., adding their support and voices to a crowd of thousands. Campus organizations such as the Sustainability Cooperative and MaryPIRG banded together to represent the university's students in a national fight for climate change.

November 12, 2019: "I Stand With Dreamers"

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program is an immigration policy that allows undocumented immigrants who arrived to the U.S. under the age of 16 reprieve from the fear of deportation. As the federal government threatened to take the program away, people took to the streets up in arms.

Students and faculty of this university joined those in the nation's capital, adorning their clothing and signs with monarch butterflies — a symbol of migration — and standing at city blocks surrounding the Capitol Building. Signs unified "Dreamers" and their counterparts alike, emphasizing that "Borders Are Not Healthy."

newsumdbk@gmail.com

STUDENTS protest in front of McKeldin Library after President Trump's election in 2016. FILE PHOTO/THE DIAMONDBACK

A GROUP OF WOMEN removed their shirts in response to radical religious demonstrators in 2019. CARMEN MOLINA ACOSTA/THE DIAMONDBACK

PROTESTERS flooded the steps of the Supreme Court after Judge Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation in 2018. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

STUDENTS AND MEMBERS OF CASA walk to a protest in front of the Supreme Court in 2019. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

MEMBERS OF PROTECTUMD protest in front of the Main Administration Building in 2017. FILE PHOTO/THE DIAMONDBACK

PROTESTERS hold up signs outside the Supreme Court in 2019. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

Through the Years: Advocacy and Activism

Hundreds of students gathered outside of the Administration building to avenge the death of football player and classmate Jordan McNair, who suffered a heat stroke during a workout in May 2018 and died in the hospital two weeks later. It took an ESPN story and heavy criticism from the student body for football coach DJ Durkin and athletic director to finally be fired.

All of the protests shown here occurred well before the COVID-19 pandemic struck. The Black Lives Matter protests of June 2020 are displayed earlier on in the book as they took place in the transition from quarantine back to normalcy in society.

Justice for Jordan

Students gathered at the summit of McKeldin Mall to begin the protest to avenge the death of classmate and football player Jordan McNair.

After marching down the mall, students gathered atop the steps of the Administration building to get the attention of university executives and make change.

Shouting for justice.

Always Remember #79

Students standing in solidarity for Jordan face their protest organizers and fellow activists.

En route from McKeldin Library to the Administration building, chanting for Jordan.

Organizers get loud and emotional on the administration's doorstep.

Cultural Immersion at UMD

by Sam Silver

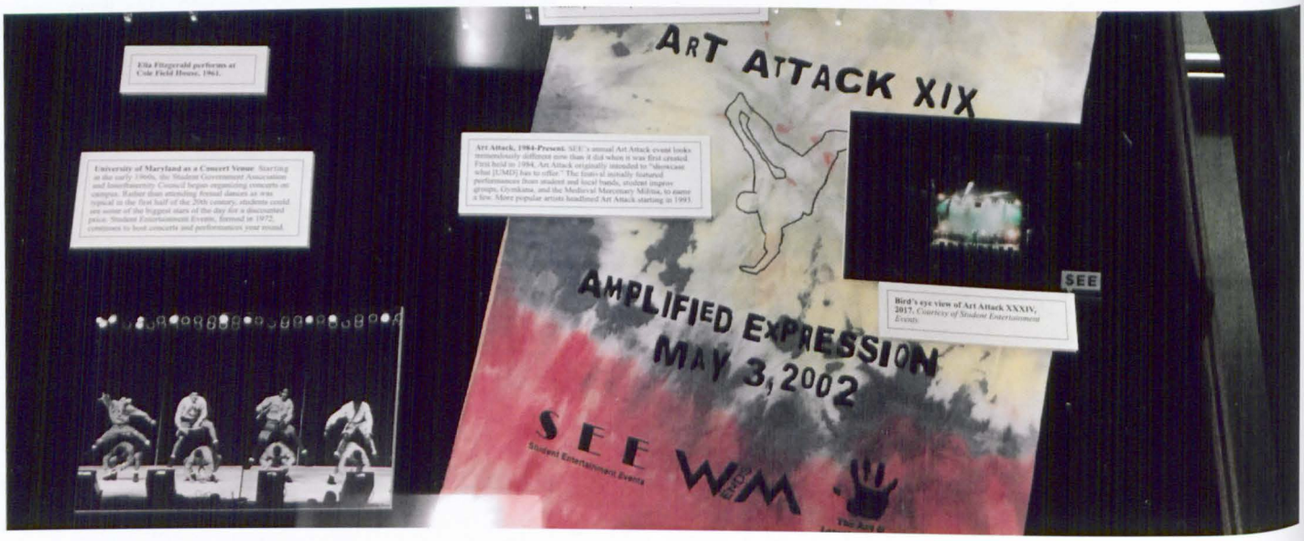
Trying to be more involved this semester, I made an effort to attend the different events I saw on Facebook that interested me. Despite not being in the Japanese American Student Association, knowing no one going to the event, I decided to purchase a ticket to JASA's Taste of Japan 2020: Tokyo Olympics. I am not too familiar with Japanese culture and was looking forward to a night immersed in it. Upon arrival, I was given a "passport" that required stamps from the different tables in order to receive a reward of food, drinks, and snacks. Each table offered a unique glimpse into Japanese culture. There were games like kendama, calligraphy, haiku writing, a fortune tree, a samurai sword fight, ring tossing, and much more. They also had live music going on, featuring the famous taiko performance. There was teriyaki chicken, noodles, egg rolls, and rice, along with Japanese drinks like milk tea and calpico.

I also decided to attend the Tawainese American Student Association's coffee house, as I was wanting to see some live entertainment while learning more about TASA and the culture they embody. After getting snacks and drinks, I sat down as the emcee came on stage to introduce the night. There were dance groups, guitarists, singers, duets, and much more. It was great to see all the different talents people have and a lot of new faces.

While eating my food, I sat down so I could watch the performance going on and look around at all the decorations. Two emcees in onesies then came on stage to introduce the next game, a Kahoot about Japanese culture that over a hundred people ended up participated in. I realized how little I knew about Japanese culture when I kept getting all the answers wrong! I learned a lot from this game, and it was great to get to participate with everyone else that was at the event. There was much discussion about the Tokyo Olympics, which have since unfortunately been canceled.

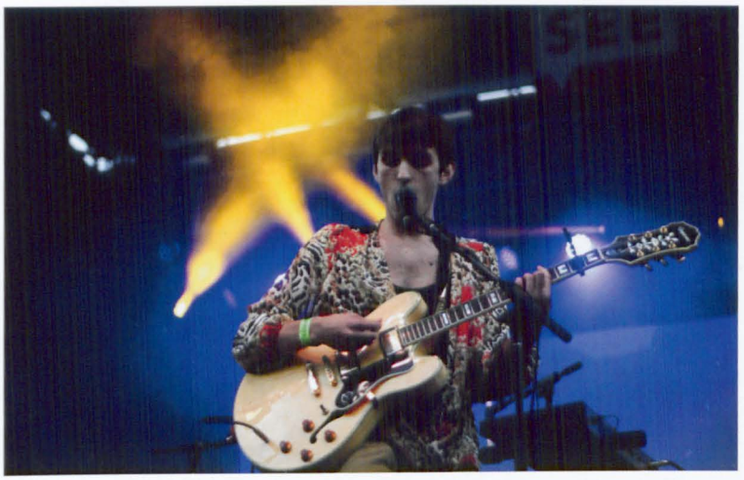
Risa Tanji and Dotson Hsing

Through the Years: Art Attack 2017-19

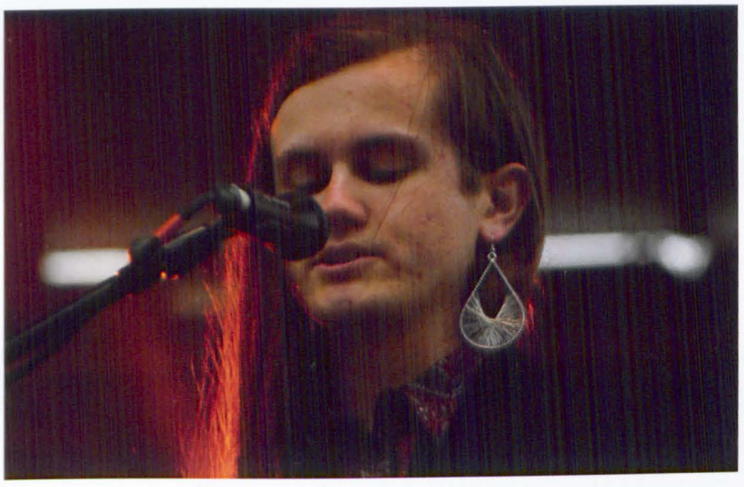


2017 Openers: Radiographers, Wordsmith

Kevin, drummer for the Radiographers.

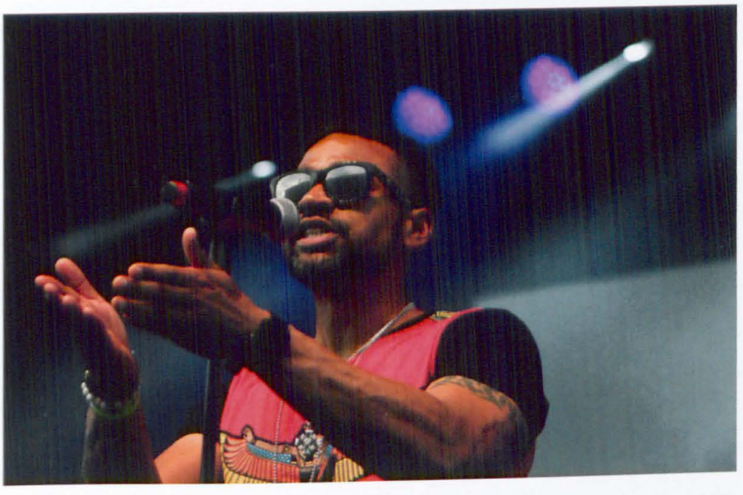


Mike, lead singer and guitarist for the Radiographers.



Devin, guitarist for the Radiographers.

Rapper Wordsmith performs at UMD's Art Attack event in 2017.

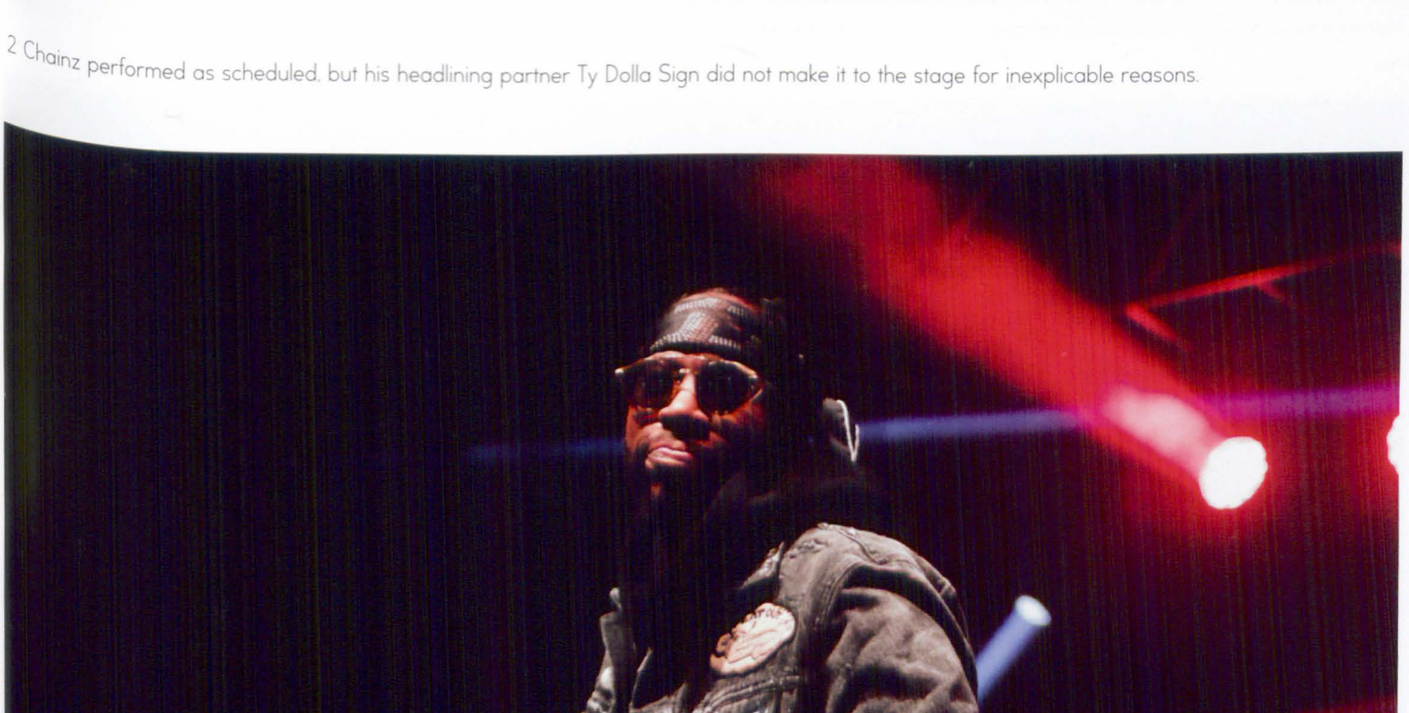


2017 Opener: Innanet James

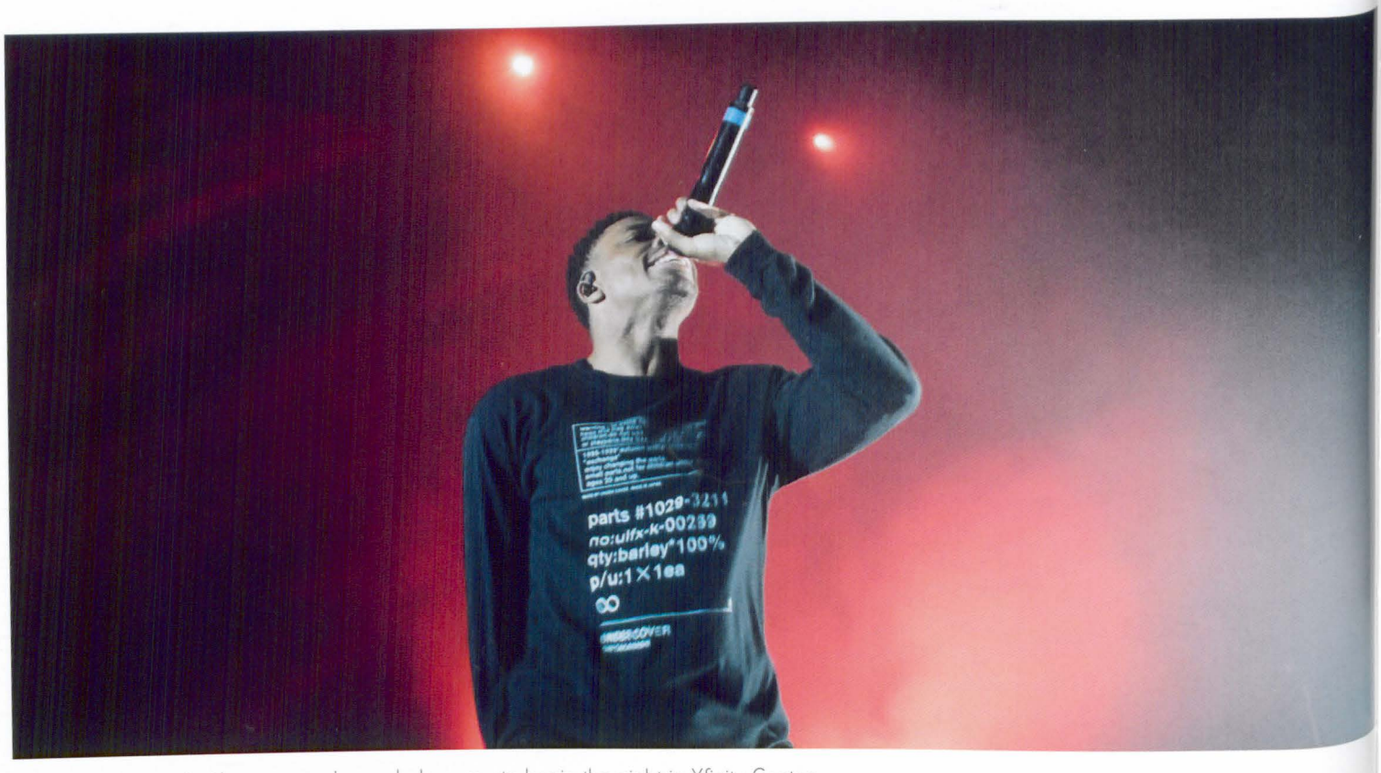
Innanet James performs at UMD's Art Attack in 2017.

2017 Headliner: 2 Chainz (& Ty Dolla Sign?)

2 Chainz performed as scheduled, but his headlining partner Ty Dolla Sign did not make it to the stage for inexplicable reasons.



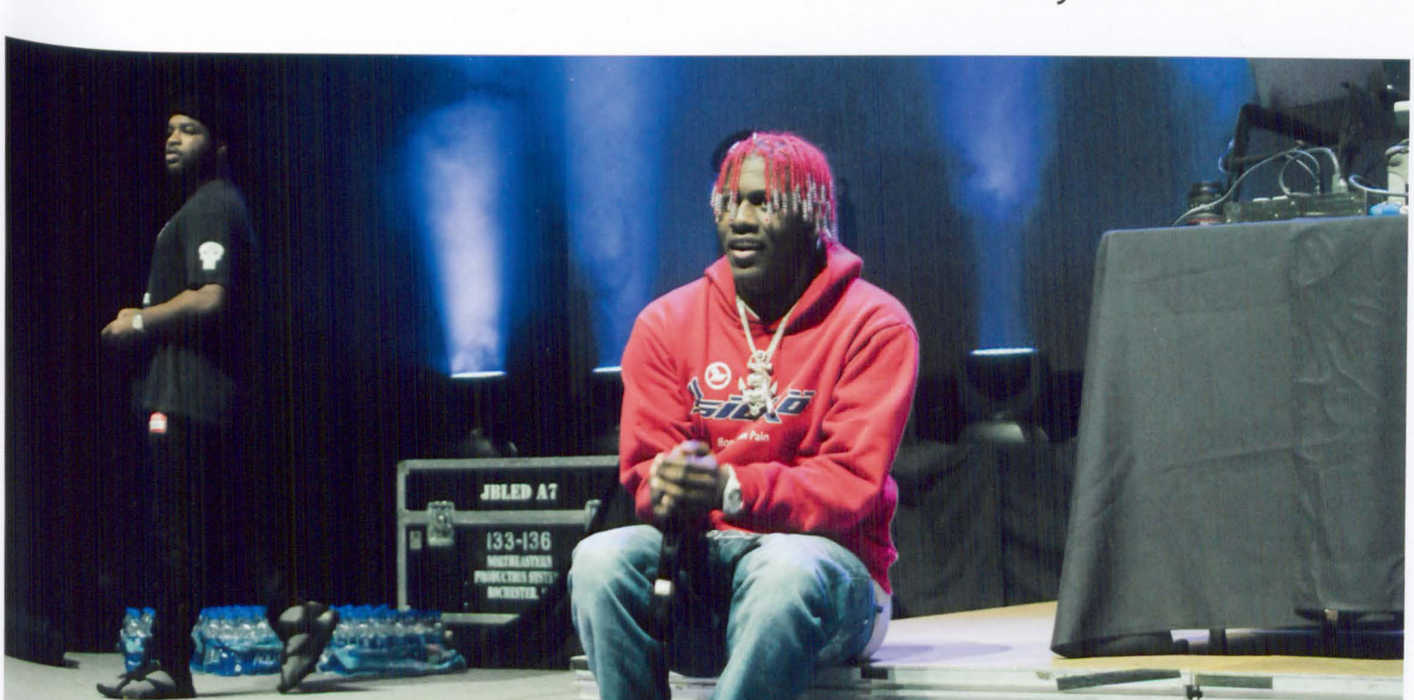
2018 Opener: Vince Staples



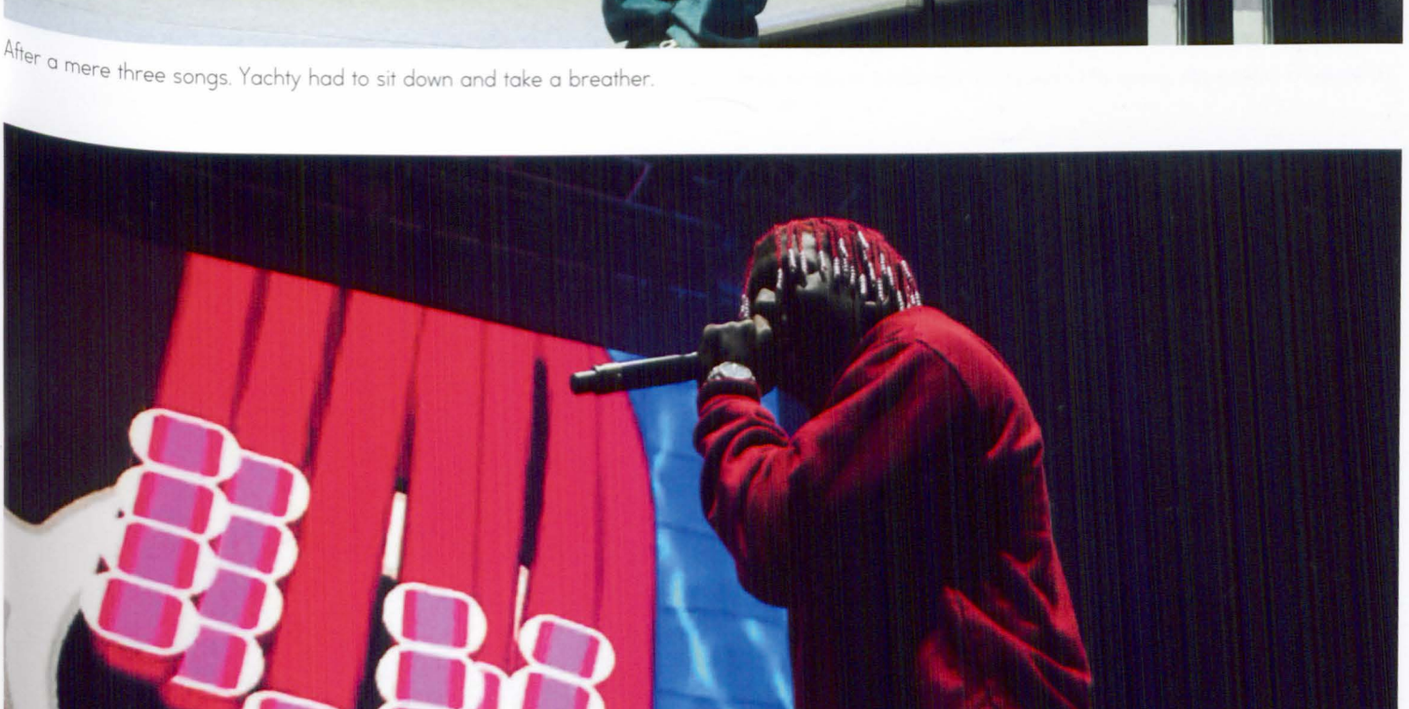
Vince hit the crowd with some much-needed energy to begin the night in Xfinity Center.

Chants of "We Want Yachty" rang out from those who don't understand the intellectual, gritty style of Staples.

2018 Headliner: Lil Yachty



After a mere three songs, Yachty had to sit down and take a breather.



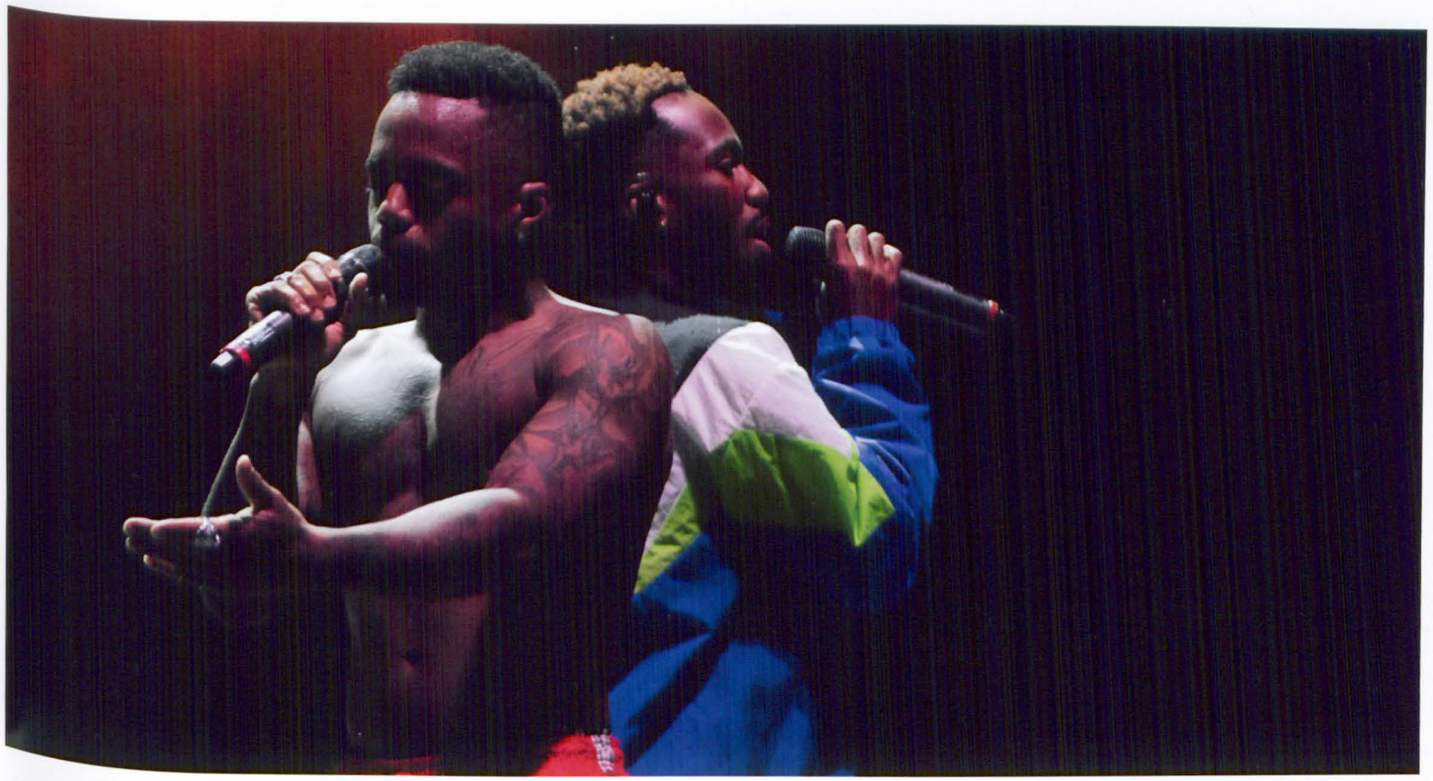
10 minutes later, he arose and proceeded to finish his set.

2019 Opener: 10Issues

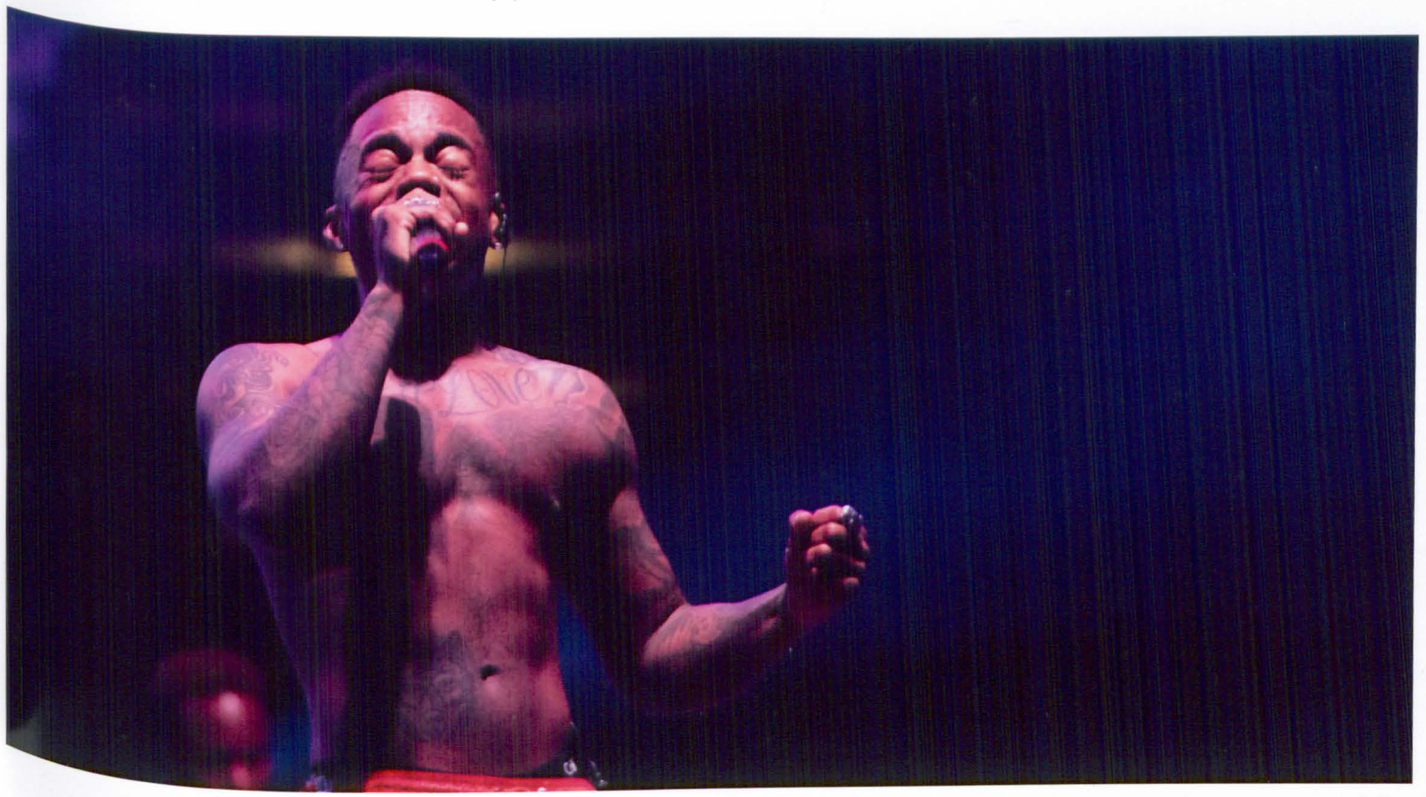
10Issues, a 10-person group of University of Maryland students, performed as the opener of Art Attack 2019.

Class of 2019 communications major Azha Jeffries took the stage as the lead singer of the group.

2019 Opener: THEY.



THEY., made up of duo Dante Jones and Drew Neely, performed at UMD's Art Attack in 2019.



2019 Headliner: Jessie Reyez

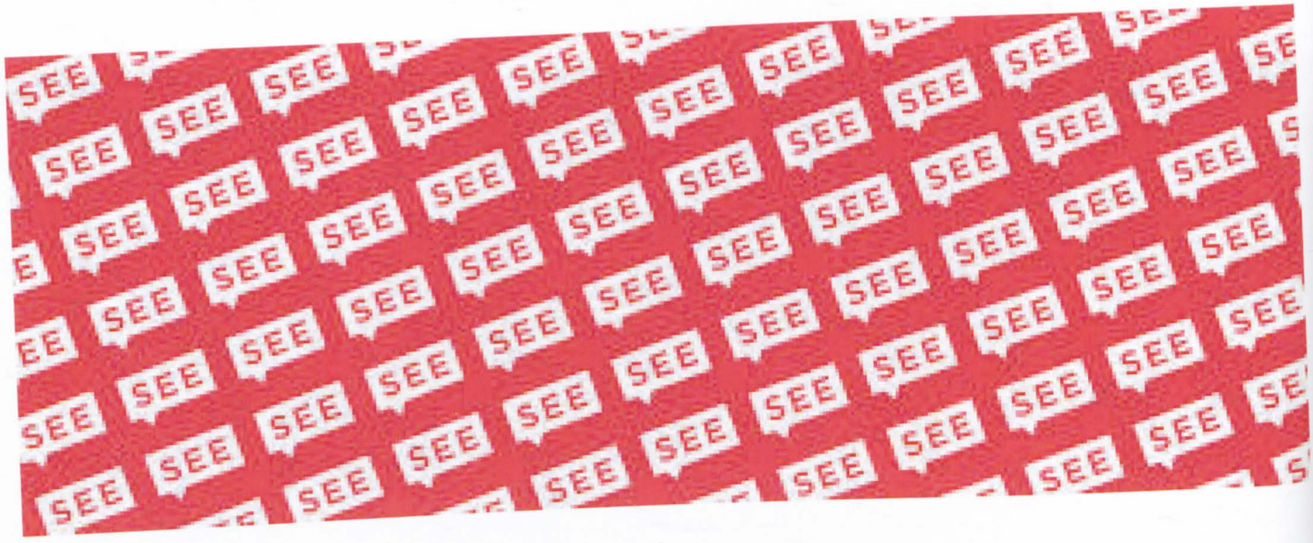
Jessie Reyez raps and sings with passion at UMD's Art Attack in 2019. (Julia Nikhinson / The Diamondback)

(Julia Nikhinson / The Diamondback)

2019 Headliner: A$AP Ferg

Ferg raps with his hood up at UMD's Art Attack 2019. (Julia Nikhinson / The Diamondback)

Ferg sprays the crowd by flinging a water bottle from the stage. (Julia Nikhinson / The Diamondback)

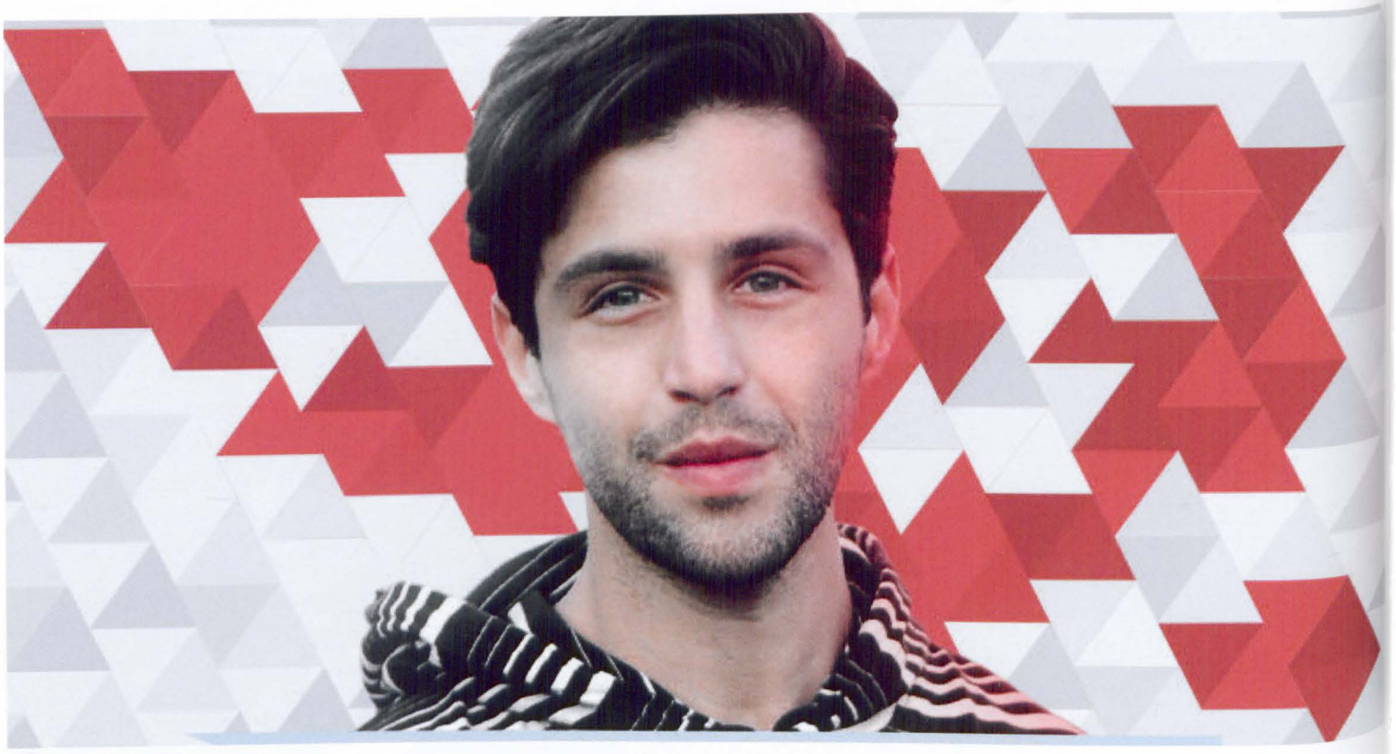


SEE Events 2019-20

Sept. 5, 2019: Late Night Mic

This art and activism-style event kicked off the academic year for Student Entertainment Events. Perfect for slam poetry fans, audience members got to first watch student opener Rudy Francisco recite his poetry before the main event commenced. After Francisco performed in his portion of the show, spoken word poet Aja Monet took the stage to share some of her work with the audience. Audience members were particularly impressed with Monet's business Smoke Signals Studio, which is a community collective that focuses on music, art and culture, with an emphasis on community organizing.

Sept. 6, 2019: Josh Peck Lecture



University of Maryland students flocked to the STAMP Grand Ballroom in early September to watch actor Josh Peck speak. To many, Peck holds special significance because of his appearance in Nickelodeon's "Drake and Josh," a childhood favorite for many current college-aged kids.

At this memorable lecture and moderated Q&A session, Peck answered audience questions about his past and current work, as well as his future prospects.

Oct. 6, 2019: All Niter with Cautious Clay

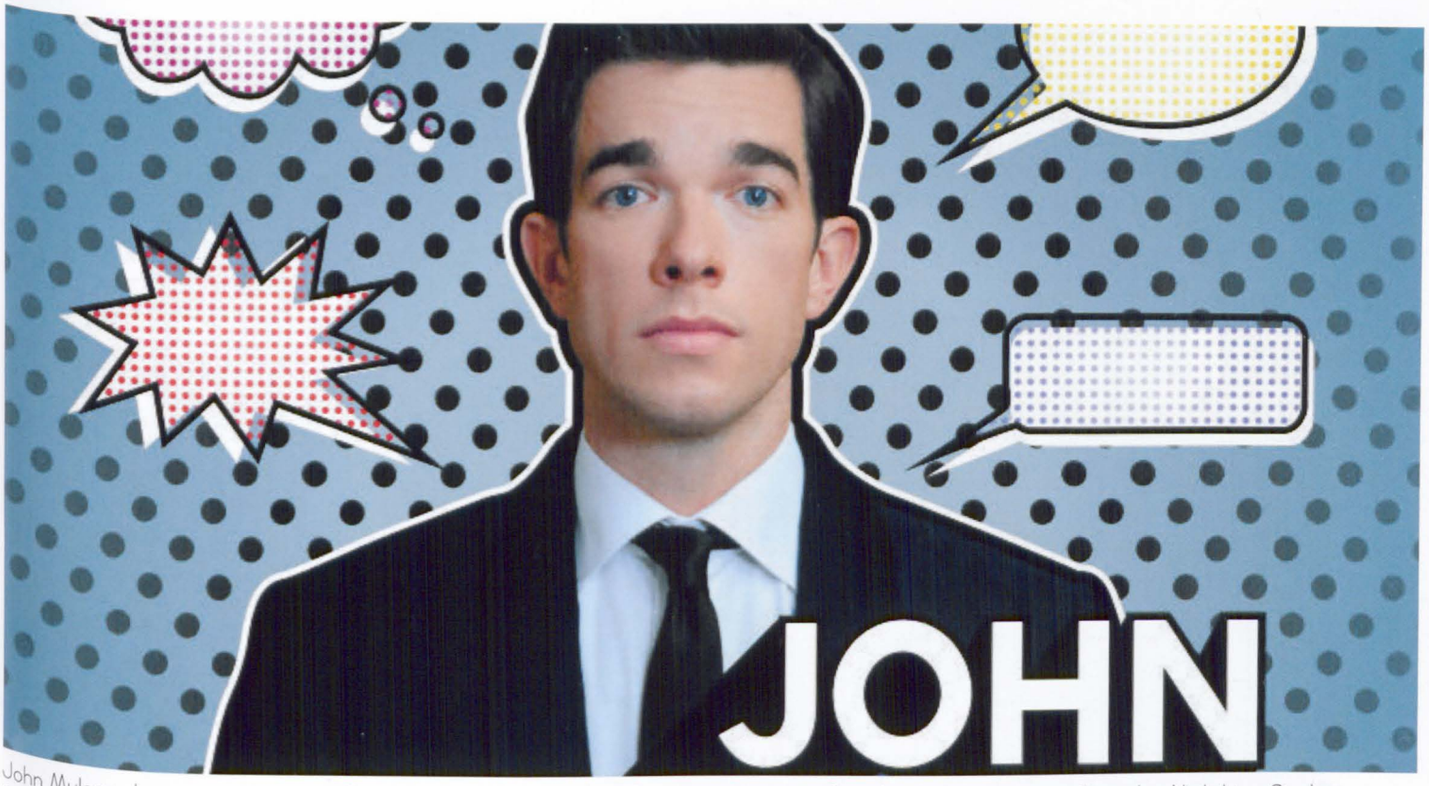
For the 38th year in a row, the University of Maryland's STAMP Student Union hosted a flood of students for 14 hours worth of festivities starting at noon and ending with a dance party until 2 a.m. Activities included Nintendo Smash Bros Tournament, Drag Bingo, Trivia, as well as a performance by and Q&A with Julissa Calderon and Gadiel del Orbe. Calderon appeared in Netflix's Gentefied, and del Orbe works with Buzzfeed. The All Niter's main event, however, was a concert by Cautious Clay, an American singer and songwriter.

Oct. 11, 2019: Fallapalooza with Chelsea Cutler

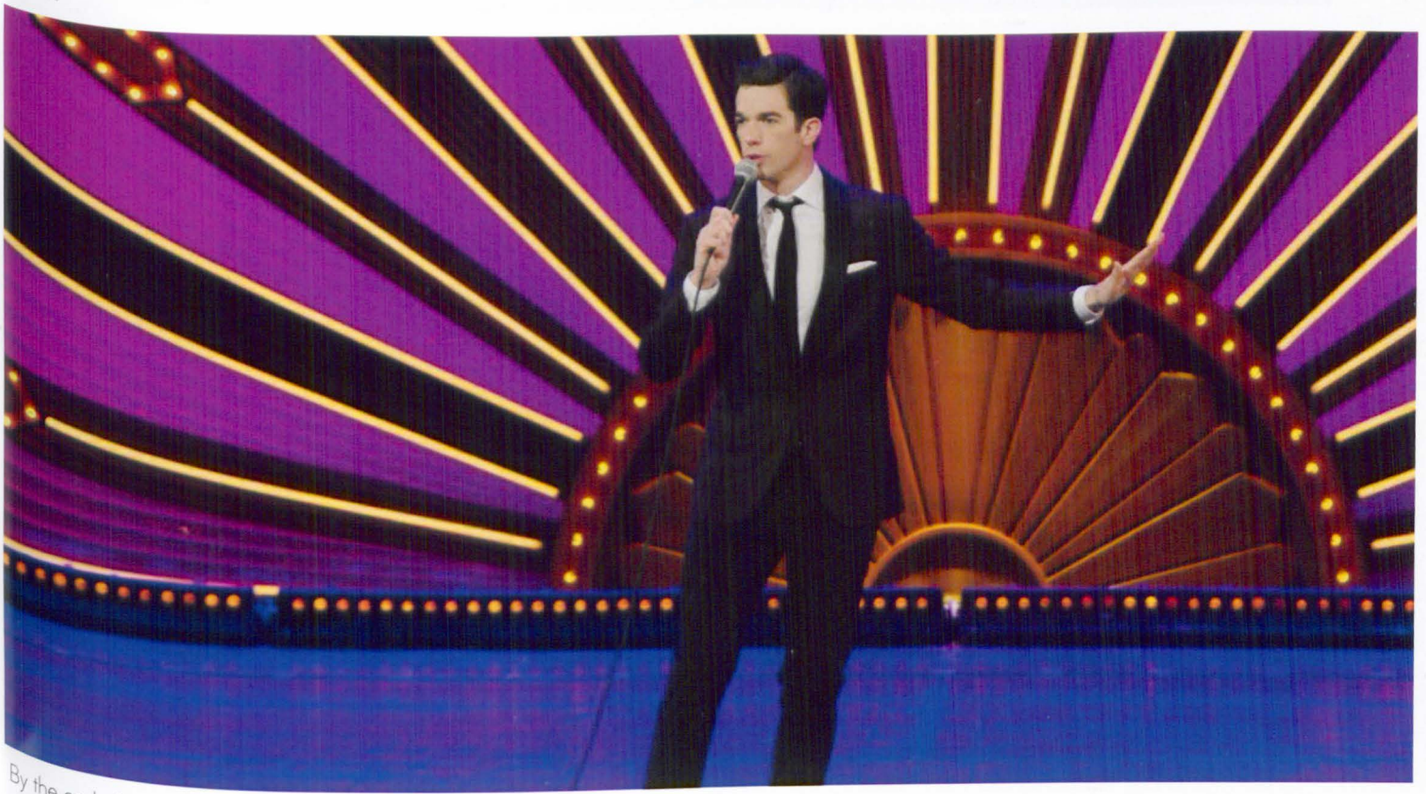
Fallapalooza is a student favorite, year after year. In the past, Student Entertainment Events has brought in artists like Quinn XCII and Snakehips. This school year, the artist picked was up-and-coming singer and songwriter Chelsea Cutler. Cutler has garnered a big following of fans who appreciate her pop-style music.

Because Art Attack was canceled due to COVID-19, Fallapalooza was the big musical event of this academic school year.

Oct. 30, 2019: John Mulaney Comedy Show



John Mulaney has grown exponentially in popularity over the past few years, stemming from his appearances on Saturday Nigh Live. Student Entertainment Events booked Mulaney to perform a standup comedy show for a sold out crowd of fans, who he spoke to through his relatable humor.



By the end of the show, audience members were laughing hysterically and would go on to talk about this event for weeks.

Philanthropy

Hundreds of University of Maryland students partake in philanthropy events every year. Club organizations such as Terp Thon and Relay for Life, along with the countless Greek Life chapters at the university, raise money and help support specific causes that are unique to each organization.

The largest student-run organization on campus is Terp Thon. The purpose of Terp Thon is to help raise money to support patients and families in the community with pediatric illnesses. Fundraising happens year-round with fun-filled events such as the Color Run and Flash Mob. For Terp Thon, their primary fundraising event is the Dance Marathon that takes place in March every year. For students to be able to attend the event in early March, they need to raise a minimum of $120. The money that students raise through fundraising helps them reach monetary benchmarks within Terp Thon. The top fundraising level is the Miracle Maker; in order to reach this level, students must raise $2,500.

Countless clubs, organizations, resident halls and Greek life chapters create teams for students to join the dance marathon. Each team is then assigned to a color group resulting in a sea of color. The 12-hour marathon represents the 12-hour shifts that nurses must work at the Children's National Hospital. During the marathon, students can play games, hear the stories of Miracle Kids, learn the Terp Thon dance, spend time with friends and, of course, raise money and awareness for Children's National Hospital. This year, Terp Thon raised $532, 662.45, bringing the 11-year total (its tenure as an event) to $5,501,890.08. Terp Thon 2021 is already slated for March 6.

Other philanthropy-based organizations on campus were not able to hold their in-person events prior to classes moving online due to the coronavirus pandemic. One organization was Relay for Life, a community-based fundraising event for the American Cancer Society and other cancer-related groups. The University of Maryland Relay for Life event was scheduled to take place in person on April 18, 2020 but was instead moved online to be held virtually. The event was held that day through a live stream from 12-8p.m. on Facebook and Instagram. The organization even waived registration fees to encourage anyone and everyone to participate in helping fight against cancer.

Despite the coronavirus pandemic putting many in-person events on hold, philanthropic clubs and organizations were able to fundraise for their respective charities and keep spreading the love and support necessary to make change.

Relay for Life

Senior Portraits

Asmaa Abbassi

Isabella Abbott

Nicholas Abbott

Aishah Abdullah

Noah Aberman

Lauren Abidargham

Kouloum Abidji

Beimnet Abraha

Emily Abrams

Christian Paul Abueg

Aisac Marie Accad

Mary Joseph Mj Acevedo

Keshab Acharya

Alexys Adams

Swini Adikari

Temilola Afolabi

Alexis Agbai

Shivam Agrawal

Clydelle Agyei

Farhan Ahmed

Woodson Ahmed

Zaakira Ahmed

Zain Ahmed

Olivia Ajayi

Adetoun Akande

Azhar Akber

Hirbod Akhavantaheri

Tumi Akin-Sodipo

Sheldon Akinrimisi

Oluwasayofunmi Akinrodoye

Ayodele Akiwumi

George Akparewa

Sura Al Janabi

Jordan Al-Faleh

Basem Al-Rifai

David Alade

Warren Albert

Patrick Alderton

Averi Alexander

Chanelle Alexander

Kapre Alexander

Mireim Alibrahim

Robert Allen

Stephen Allen

Tobias Allen

Abdul-Quayyum Almaroof

Chloe Aloimonos

Sarah Alshabboot

Jaaron Alston

Gregory Amaral

Mansi Amin

Alexis Amos

Kirsten An

Johanna Ananth

Allison-Lois Anderson

Natalie Anderson

Nicholas Anderson

Nicole Andrews

Pearl Andrieu

Lauren Angard

Doris Ansah

Ryan Antar

Katheryn Antinucci

Daniel Antwi

Linda Aparicio

Emily Aquino

Karen Arevalo

J Alejandro Arias

Netsanet Arnold

Matthew Arovas

Cindy Artero

Fawad Arzoiee

Michael Asante

Mignot Asefa

Nabeela Asif Klayr

Samantha Asuncion

Hannah Atenidegbe

Tiye Ialiyah Aton

Caroline Augelli

Mark Augustino

Domenica Avellan Jaramillo

Mengistu Ayane

Sanmi Ayegbusi

Morenike Ayoku

Ghazala Azaz

Athiyah Azeem

Bernardo Azevedo

Christopher Bach

Adria Backus

Michael Bacot

Dylan Badger

Yunhan Bai

Vaskia Bailey

Chad Baker

Darius Baker

Rassimran Bakhshi

Diran Balogun

Benard Bampoh

Amartya Banerjee

Caesar Bankole

Catelyn Barnes

Alyssa Barnett

Ariel Baron

Joseph Baroni

Kira Barrett

Robert Barris

Jessica Barry

Thomas Bartenfelder

Jacqueline Bartha

Jessica Bartholomew

Jasmine Baten

Josh Batugo

Sandra D Bazubwabo

Heather Beatty

Maryjane Beckworth

Lucia Bedewi

Kolin Behrens

Wastina Belayneh

Jared Belke

Mekelit Bellay

Luisa Beltran Rey

Edwin Benitez

Kaya Benitez

Gabrielle Bennett

Thomas Benson

Patrick Benton

Kayla Beovich

Alex Berardi

Tobias Dimarco Berger

Selam Berhe

Caroline Berkman

Theresa Berlage

Alyssa Berman

Jessica Berman

Madeline Berman

Mayan Beroukhim

Brianna Beshkin

Adrianna Bethea

Shelby Bettencourt

Diya Bhandarkar

Hafsa Bhatti

Zaryab Bhatti

Tess Bialobrzeski

Benjamen Bianchi

Morgan Biggs

Zack Bishop

Chitrine Biswas

Devir Bitton

Josephine Black

Zavar Blackledge

Willow Blackmon

Jeneva Blackwell

Lud Blair

Nidia Blanco

Noah Bloomstein

Michelle Bloyd

Brett Blum

Olivia Bobek

Carly Boden

Frank Bonanni

Melissa Jolene Bondoc

Madison Borenkoff

Aviva Borison

Bryan Bornn

Joseph Miggs Borromeo

Carole Botello

Selim Boukabara

Kelly Bouma

Yasmine Boumaiz

Liam Bourque

Annia Bowen

Spence Boyer

Theophilus Braimoh

Beverly Braswell

Katrina Brauer

Nick Braughton

Alden Braverman

Juan Jose Bravo

Isabel Brecher

Aimee Brennan

Barbara Brewer

Brittney Bridges

Griffin Brightbill

Bennett Brinson

Yasmeen Brooks

Allegra Brown

Clysree Brown

Corie Brown

Kevin Brown

Logan Brown

Benjamin Browning

Alex Bryant

Morgan Bryant

Rachel Brynien

Rachel Bucchino

Justin Bucci

Brendan Buckley

Misha Bucknor

Madison Bundra

Jacob Burden

Jennifer Burgos

Jordyn Burleson

Aaron Burstyn

Samira Bustamante

Ismenia Bustillo

Emily Byers

Lashawnda Bynum

Ayanna Byrd

William Byrne

Rachael Caballero

Ana Cabrera

Cameron Cabrera

Jephthe Cadet

William Calcagno

Alexia Calhoun

Kerry Callaghan

Alexander Camacho

Colton Campbell

Julia Campbell

Byron Cantillano

Jared Canubas

Elizabeth Capuano

Alfredo Carbajal Jr

Alana Bianca Carino

Allison Carney

Natalie Carney

Cory Carrasco

Caroline Carrington

Ethan Carson

Chad Cartwright

Samantha Caruso

James Cassarino

Yvonne Castillo

Jose Castro

Paola Castro

Sofia Castro

Diego Cavero

Donovan Center

Michael Centrella

Monica Chacon

Frank Chambergo

Michelle Chan

Magdalena Chandlee

Colleen Chapin

Wai Lam Chau

Sona Chaudhary

Matthew Chazin

Andrew Cheater

Andrew Chen

Wan-Yu Chen

Yuqing Chen

Mackaiya Cherry

Iniyan Chezhian

Alisa Chin

Kevin Gerald Chin

Olivia Chin

Attiyya Chisolm

Lisa Eun Cho

Ye Hie Joy Cho

Anne Choi

Albert Chu

Gi Hong Chung

Young Chung

Katherine Ciaravalli

Monica Cipriano

Nicole Clark

Karah Claver

Treanna Cobb

Gail Cohen

Alissa Cole

Elizabeth Colin

Kaleigh Collett

Patrick Collins

Joseph Colwell

Amanda Comeau

Leticia Cometti Lacerda

Jodi Concepcion

Christine Condon

Allyson Conlin

Tilly Cornblatt

Courtney Correll

Lexy Costanzo

Khadijah Coulibaly

Patrick Coward

Megan Cowie

Viviana Coy

Callan Cramer

Lauren Critelli

Megan Croly

Qingshu Kevin Cui

Shaila Cummings

Jordan Cummins

Cana Curtis

Madison Curtis

Sarah Cusick

Amber Czinn

Megan Czysz

Celestin Dago

Cameron Daisey

Abigail Dalmacio

Maggie Daly

Golab Darab

Brayela Daria

Ronit Das

Kaitlyn Davey

Brianna Davis

Earleshia Davis

Helena Davis

Lonnie Davis

Melissa Davis

Nicholas Davis

Terrance Davis

Hakeem Dawodu

Michael Dawson

Damara Dayton

Allison Dcosta

Camille Joie De Jesus

Sulakkhana De Saram

Kumari DeAlwis

Lauren Decastro

Niko Decristofaro

Prueangprach Deeprachakorn

Nicholas Defeo

Mauricio Defngin

Daniel Degenford

Thomas Deigan

Ysabelle Hannah Del Rosario

Thomas Deliso

Michael Demarco

Nick Dematt

Andrew Demidov

Heather Democker

Jason Denny

Peter Derasmo

Madison Deregis

Leighla Dergham

Saron Desissa

Nathan Dessalegne

Jerry Dessy

Mark Devince

Jessica Devine

James Dezell

Alioune Diack

Ronni Dickens

Jordan Dictrow

Alessia Digennaro

Tobias Dilworth

Joseph Distefano

Danielle Ditchek

Massinissa Djouini

Huy Do

Vy Do

Jacob Dobich

Sauma Doka

Alyssa Dolan

William Dong

Matthew Donndelinger

Greg Donovan

Hannah Dornbush

Brianna Douglas

Benjamin Douty

Janaye Dowers

Catherine Dowling

Scott Dubell

Olivia Dubois

Juliette Ducasse

Austin Duffy

Shannon Duffy

John Dugan

Delight Dzansi

Olivia Ebey

Chukzy Edemenya

Logan Edmondson

Julia Edwards

Kofi Kevin Egah

Ilona Ehrlich

Wendi Eichner

Seth Eisenberg

Ayebalayefaa Eke-Spiff

Maryam Eko

Sarah Elazar

Olivia Elbaum

Sofia Elkin Becerra

Matthew Ellingsworth

Constantine Ellis

Curtis Ellison

Jacob Elspas

Rebecca Elspas

Edward Engelbride

Breanna English

Grant Epple

Antonia Epstein

Gabriella Epstein

Oseremen Eromosele

Dominic Escorpeso

Donna Escorpeso

Erin Esterson

Kiara Estrada-Romero

Peroline Etcheu

Steeven Ludger Etienne

Edgard Etoundi-Ngono

Takahiro Eungsakul-Hayashi

Alex Evans

Logan Ewing

Negeen Fadae

Anita Fagbamila

Colby Fair

Leticia Faria Araujo Reis

Maria Fernanda Farieta

Alecia Farina

Ludovica Farina

Arafat Fasuyi

Zon Fatima

Farbod Fazilat

Lindsey Feltoon

Charles Fentonmiller

Charles Ferrara

Sarah Ferrier

Tyler Fers

Meghan Fickett

Marina Fileva

Katheryn Finamore

Carli Fine

Samuel Finkel

Victoria Fiore

Alexander Fischman

Caleb Fishell

Christian Fisher

Arianna Flamer

Jennifer Fletcher

Allyson Flinn

Michael Flowe

Madison Flynn

Fatoumata Fofana

Nicole Folkes

Apongnwu Fopenawoh

Jacqueline Ford

Madison Forrest

Diamond Foster

Matthew Fowler

Amanda Franko

Dovber Frauenhofer

Anthony Frazier

Samantha Frazier

Ross Friedel

Hannah Friedfeld

Jacob Friedman

Brooke Fruman

Thomas Furlong

Avi Furman

Ebonie Gadson

Brendan Gage

Megan Gaines

Austin Gamache

Aya Gandolfo

Yingjie Gao

Brendon Garagusi

Julia Garman

Jonathan Garner

Rachel Garner

Erin Garry

Christina Garvey

Ricardi Gaston

Giselle Gattorno

Theresa Gebhart

Ferddy Gedeon

Megan Geesin

Michael Geherty

Emily Gerard

Dena Gershkovich

Lauren Gershon

Rachel Gerstenfeld

David Gerzog

Katherine Gibbons

Douglas Gibson

Clarissa Gideos

Alexander Gilbert

Daniel Gilmore

Isabel Glick

Stephanie Gnammakou

Jordan Gold

Allyson Goldberg

Michael Golden

Kelsey Golding

Jenna Goldschmidt

Ariella Golish

Ryan Golub

Emily Gong

Irsa Gonzalez

Kelsey Goodman

Citrupa Gopal

Viana Gopez

Janeane Gordon

Rochelle Gordon

Talya Gordon

Seblewongel Gorfu

Paige Gorodetzky

Haley Gottfried

Brandon Gottlieb

Rodnae Gould

Matthew Goulding

Felicia Graham

Natalia Grajewski

Jillian Granados

Nicholas Grau

Dana Gray

Hannah Grebos

Blake Green

Jasmine Green

Marcel Green

Sierra Green

Eric Greenbaum

David Greenfield

Frieda Greenthal

Eitan Griboff

Samantha Griffin

Morgan Grizzle

Noah Gross

Emma Grossman

Yiming Gu

Gustavo Guevara

Maria Gumerov

Kunal Gupta

Nikhil Gupta

Naya Guptal

Maria Gabriela Güiza Enciso

Benjamin Haber

Robert Habighorst

Alejandra Hagans

Amanda Haimm

Margaret Hall

Christina Hallam

Majed Hamed

Kathleen Hamilton-Campos

Damani Hamm

Muhammad Hamza

Payton Hanna

Jili Hao

Rana Hardnett

Theresa Harkleroad

Kaleah Harley

Kordell Harper

Maria Harrington

Logan Harris

Lorenzo Harrison III

Kristina Hart

Sydney Hart

Herrick Hartman

Julia Harvey

Kaitlin Harvey

Mary Kate Haselden

Melody Hashemi

Amal Hassan

Anthony Hassan

Shayan Hassani

Evelyn Hausler

Chandler Hayden

Evan Haynos

Anqi He

Julianne Heberlein

Julia Heck

Sarvenaz Hedayati

Ashley Hedrick

Michael Heffron

Katie Heidrick

Michaela Henderson

Isabella Henry

Troy Hensh

Melissa Herazo

Elizabeth Herbert

Gabrielle Hernandez

Karen Hernandez

Genesis Herrera Lopez

Brianne Heverling

Emily Hilliard

Teresa Hillin

Abigail Hines

Avery Hinson

Elliott Hinson

Rachel Hirschheimer

Michael Hirst

Rachel Hithon

Kristen Ho

Kyle Ho

Andy Hoang

Megan Hoban

Amanda Hobgood Wilmont

Gabriella Hochmuth

Idalia Hodge

Hannah Hoffman

Ilana Hoffman

Andrew Holl

Samantha Holley

Samantha Holtz

Ryan Homler

Montana Hoover

Shimon Horwitz

Mackenzie Hostage

Hayden Hotham

Valerie Houck-Meloni

Amber Houston

Eva Houston

Aimee Howard

Fallon Howard

Samantha Howard

Yerui Hu

Shiyu Huang

Zhiyu Huang

Ziyu Huang

Taylor Hudson

Austin Hughes

Oliver Hull

Melvyn Hullana

Ianthe Humphries

Addiskidan Hundito

Hannah Hunter

Alizah Husain

Rachel Huston

Anh Huynh

Kelvin Huynh

Thien Huynh

Vivian Ibezimako

Keren Idan

Baindu Idriss

Bisola Iginla

Spencer Ihm

Joseph Ilardi

Kimberly Imonide

Tara Iraola

Rachel Isaacs

Rafiul Islam

Diyora Isroilova

Callie Ives

Saman Jabari

Hayat Jabbour

Gregory Jackson II

Morgan Jackson

Matthew Jacob

Emily Jaffe

Alex Jagard

Isha Jalloh

Déja James

Olivia James

Soyeon Jang

Robeannes Javier Melo

Brendan Jay

Eric Jean-Rene

Lynsey Jeffery

Menglin Jiang

Xinyi Jiang

Thalia Jimenez

Megan Jingwi

Jernelle John

Alex Johnson

Javiera A Johnson Julio

Lindsay Johnson

Matthew Johnson

Sumaiya Johnson

Emily Johnston

Paul Jojy

Jeremy Jolles

Bryan Jones

Camille Jones

Elonna Jones

Kenneth Jones

Melanie Jones

Zachary Jones

Cydnee Jordan

Elizabeth Jordan

Shashwat Joshi

Alwin Joy

Kristen Ju

Alicia Jung

Waverly Jung

Rebecca Kabir

Anoop Kalra

Martha Kamara

Abigail Kameny

Samantha Kaminski-Mainardi

Brian Kammer

Kevin Kane

Ellison Kaneff

Leher Kapur

Allison Karanjia

Katherine Karayianis

Hannah Kark

Sara Karlovitch

Matthew Kasa

Jamie Katz

Melanie Katz

Elana Katzen

Collin Keating

Eyerusalem Kebede

Yoseph Ayele Kebede

Benjamin Kelly

Kazine Kelly

Maya Kelly

Nana Frekua Kennedy

Ithawat Keosomdet

Miles Kerby

Jamie Kerner

Yonina Keschner

Gannon Kese

Yanni Kevas

Shweta Khanal

Matthew Kiely

Patrick Kiley

Jisoo Kim

Nikita Kimani

Sharon Kimemia

Judy Kindo

Alexis King

Angeline King

Madeline King

Taylor Kinnucane

Simran Kishore

Vera Klimchenko

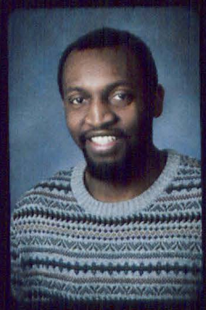
Ashley Knights

Justin Koehn

Abhinav Kohli

Mostafa Kolahdouzan

Taylor Kolosky



David Konteh

Benjamin Koontz

Patience Korede

Kavita Kothari

Shoshana Kott

Allo Kouadio

Aleksandr Kovalyonok

Dylan Kowalewski

George Kozlov

Yema Kpaka

Aaron Kraiman

Jacob Kramer

Talya Kravitz

Mason Kreps

Shivani Krishnamurthy

Karthika Krishnan

Alison Kriz

Kurt Kunkel

Denise Laforteza

Bahar Lakeh

Matthew Laken

Shannon Lamastra

Braedon Lambros

Hannah Lamotte

Mia Lang

Erin Langille

Mollie Laniado

Alyssa Larsen

Lindsey Larsen

Iyanna Latimer

Joelle Latorre

Brian Lawrence

Emma Lawrence

Jordan Lawrence

Luz Lawrence

Gabrielle Laws

Savannah Leach

Rebecca Lebovitz

Sabrina Ledone

Ju Cheun Lee

Justin L Lee

Kristen Lee

Madison Lee

Andrew Legaluppi

Robert Leighton

Leo Leitner

Alice Lekach

Emily Lempka

Lara Lepore

Stephen Leung

Estefen Ariel Lev

Jacob Levit

Alex Levy

Vanessa Lewinsky

Danielle Lewis

Ivy Lewis

Allan Li

Christopher Li

Dennis Li

Hefei Li

Jiazheng Li

Desiree Liang

Jiali Liang

Hannah Liao

Julia Lienhard

Hongru Lin

Kemi Lin

Daniel Liscinsky

Shathera Little

Catherine Liu

Dyllis Liu

Justin Liu

Kellen Liu

Sixian Liu

Yuxi Liu

Kevin Lizama

Glady Llanto

Philip Lo

Elena Lonskaya

Joseph Loutsch

Kristen Lowe

Sabrina Lu

Jake Lubbehusen

Julius Lubman

Kenneth Lund

Jiahui Luo

Ronald Lyles

Mark Lyons

Shijun Lyu

Xinyuan Ma

Otilia Macarisin

Jillian Macchia

Scott Macchia

Andrew Macek

Tofik Mahdi

Sam Mahler

Syed Taqui Mahmood

Andrew Mair

Olivia Majedi

Taelor Majette

Kasra Makhmalbaf

Evelyn Maldonado

Adeena Malik

Humza Malik

Kendall Maliszewski

Alec Manabat

Dillon Mandley

Ashley Mangold

Francis Maningding

Saree Mansbach

Erica O Manu

Melika Marani

Brendan Maranz

Giovanni Marchand

Ilana Margulis

Julia Marks

Kristen Marqueen

Elizabeth Marr

Jocelyn Martin

Katherine Martin

Sean Martin

Blaise Martineau

Nelly Martinez-Arevalo

Matthew Masangcay

Haley Masker

Sekour Mason

Nicole Matelite

Shifali Mathews

Dhruv Mathur

Tanya Matos

Kathryn Maxwell

Zoë May

Alexa Mayerhoff

Ivana Mayo

Kaylan Mayo

Farhad Mazdarani

Arianne Mazel

Lucie Mbete

Kylie McCabe

Christopher McCallum

Susan McCauley

Caroline McComas

James McCormick

Connor McDonald

Kyle McDonell

Jasmyne McDuffie

Caitlyn McGill

Maggie McGreal

Brandon McIntyre

Elizabeth McKinley

Deja McKnight

Chloe McLaughlin

Samantha McParland

Zuleyma Medina

Crystal Mehdizadeh

Alexis Mejia

Guisbelle Mejia

Emmanuel Mekonnen

Gil Melkin

Lena Meredith

Alexis Mergruen

Matthew Merryman

Edom Mesfein

Emma Mester

Gaurika Mester

Talia Metoyer

Roxanna Meyssami

Spencer Michalski

Samuel Mihreteab

Spencer Mikulski

Anna Millard

Caitlin Miller

Kelly Miller

Leo Miller

Megan Miller

William Miller

Tebebe Million

David Milner

Reece Milner

Kyle Milslagle

Emily Mitchell

Julia Mittelstaedt

Debora Miyashiro

Lucy Moberly

Nikhil Modi

Margaret Modico

Sydney Moed

Garrett Moffett

Nur Syazwani Mohamad Shaipudin

Asma Mohamed

Sofea Juliana Mohd Rosdan

Tienne Mohs

Jack Molesworth

Andrea Molina

Bibiana Monjang

Thomas Montemarano

Karla Montoya

Sam Moon

Sandra Moore

Jonathan Morales

Collin Morgan

Chad Morris

Miranda Morris

Robert Morrison

Monica Mosby

Jeanette Moser

Shawn Moses

Tyler Mostow

Eve Moten

Georgina Moulds

Lauren Moyer

Kelly Mozingo

Kelsey Muckelbauer

Ruqiyyah Muid

Lucy Mulford

Madeline Mulligan

Moniyah Mullin

Japheth Mulugeta

Hannah Mulvaney

Tiffany Munoz-Zegarra

Hannah Munson

Alexander Murphy

Brian Murphy

Mary Kate Murphy

Isabelle Muss

Imran Mustapha

Bala Subhisksha Nagaraja

Mrinalini Nagarajan

Joshua Nail

Tendo Nassozi

Varda Nath

Thanuri Navarathna

Ndior Ndeye

Blessing Ndukwe

Grant Neave

Racheal Nelson

Katie Nerangis

Julia New

Sarah Newberg

Sarah Newfield

Constance Ng

Stephen Ngalim

Michelle Ngo

Andrew Nguyen

David Nguyen

Minh Quang Nguyen

Nhu Nguyen

Phong Nguyen

Thomas Nguyen

Fabio Niyonkuru

Wilkins Njigna Njinguet

Emmanuel Nnodim

Sofia Noronha

Kayla Norton

Rachel Nyakaana-Blair

Afua Nyame-Mireku

Ismael Nyelenkeh

Alexandre Nzeza

Catherine Oberfield

Kate Ocallaghan

Christian Oddsund

Oluwatimileyin Odejinmi

Anu Odusanya

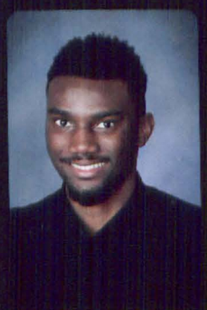
Daniella Odutola

Michael Oduyebo

Efia B Ofosu-Ntiamoah

Apryl Ogallo

Steven Okeefe



Emeka Okeke

Senam Okpattah

Adeola Okubadejo

Doyinsola Oladimeji-Stevens

Rahila Olanrewaju

Monique Oliver

Victor Olufade

Jola Olukoya

Megan Omelian

Zohar Omer

Jennifer Oneill

Janice Onigbinde

Catherine Onumajuru

Luis Orellana Quinteros

Katherine Orourke

Andrew Orr

Ricardo Ortega-Afay

Awura Osei

Alexandra Ostrander

Patrick Ott

Tianyin Ouyang

Samantha Ovington

Tengerbold Oyun-Erdene

Joselyn Padilla

Gina Pagani

Victoria Palacios

Sarah Paley

Victoria Palmaccio

Justin Pan

Danielle Panambo

Monica Panepento

Shira Panitch

Steve Pappas

David Paraboschi

Ashly Paredes

Aashish Parekh

Timothy Park

Ye Eun Park

Lydia Parker

Fatemeh Paryavi

Marissa Pasquinelli

Akshar Patel

Hiren Patel

Kris Patel

Mithil Patel

Nehali Patel

Puja Patel

Kenni Patrick

Matthew Patsy

Erica Patterson

Andal Paul

Michael Paul

Kelly Pavel

Luis Paz

Tilly Pecker

Zhengqi Pei

Felix Perez-Lugones

Heidi Perhach

Nicholas Perkins

Lauren Perry

Tristan Perry

Thomas Peters

Colin Peterson

Emma Peterson

Kayla Petrover

Alexander Peña

Britney Pieraldi

Lawrence Pina

Dania Pineda

Estefany Pineda Hernandez

Jennifer Pineda

Julia Pinsky

Nelson Pinto

Zach Pitassi

Leah Pitman

Luke Pitsenbarger

Victory Plaine

Maksim Pokalenko

Christina Grace Poley

Marissa Post

Anna Powell

Aashna Pradhan

Venkat Praveen

Arianna Prince

Erika Prudencio

Brandon Puiu

Zac Purcell

Erin Qian

Zhaolong Qian

Flor De Maria Quinones

Carolina Quiroz Moreyra

Naomi Rabe

Tojo Rabemananjara

Odri Raimundo

Ariana Rajaram

Katherine Rajgopal

Cosette Ralowicz

Krithika Ramanathan

Ravi Ramanathan

Adela Ramirez

Molly Rappaport

Abdullah Rashid

Leora Raskas

Rose Rattner

Ramya Ravulapalli

Ali Razi

Kayla Reagan

Jacques Reddinger

Allison Regan

David Reichard

Julia Reicin

Hayley Reilley

Joseph Reilly

Kellan Reinikka

Adam Reisfield

Anthony Repetto

Julia Republica

Miguel Reyes-Castillo

Nikki Rezvani

Jessica Rhoades

Hamza Riaz

Bita Riazi

Daniel Ricci

Abigail Ridgeway

Lillianna Righter

Emma Riley

Patrick Riley

Jonah Lynn Rivera

Clifton Robertson Jr

Mya Robinson

Tijera Robinson

Chantelle Rodriguez

Gabriela Rodriguez

Michael Rodriguez

Maiu Romano-Verthelyi

Christian Roncal

Aaron Rose

Emma Rosenberg

Ilana Rosenstrauch

Leah Ross

Rachel Ross

Alexandra Royce

Madison Rozencwaig

Brooklynn Rozier

Ezra Rubenfeld

Laurie Ruhlmann

Barret Rus

Katherine Ryder

Bnafsha Saberi

Sydney Sable

Jonathan Saewitz

Alina Saif

Michelle Salah

Kareem Saleh

Isabel Saltzman

Megan Samuels

Carlos Sanchez Fonseca

Adriana Sanders

Akramjit Sandhu

Lindsay Sandler

D Sangi

Eleanna Santos

Kayla Santos

Matthew Santos

Bernadette Santoso

Ama Sapong

William Sargent

Madison Sarisky

Millicent Sasu

Jonathan Sayihe

Harrison Schatz

Luke Schatzberg

Amanda Schechter

Jacob Schepers

Erin Schick

Nicole Schiff

Steven Schinella Jr

Josh Schmidt

Ben Schneider

Jason Schneider

Allison Schrock

Alexandra Schroeder

Daniela Sciscente

Cheyenne Scott

Jennifer Seabra

Eric Sedaghat

Yavuz Sefik

Adam Sehne

Max Seidman

Aaron Seldowitz

Astear Semaie

Dilshan Senanayake

Connor Senay

Jennifer Serarols

Eve Serfaty

Vasiliy Sergueev

Solomon Sewell

Karlee Shadle

Kinjal Shah

Neel Shah

Nishi Shah

Eric Shalloway

George P Shalloway

Kevin Shannon

Sophia Shapiro

Aliyah Sharif

Raneen Shatara

Da Shen

Quan Shen

Zev Sheppard

Jiawei Shi

Soobin Shin

Anahita Shirvanian

Ilham Shoja

Riya Shrestha

Michael Shultz

Maxwell Sidebotham

Katharine Siglin

Sierra Sigmone

Shivangi Sikri

Samantha Silfen

Daniel Silver

Maya Silver-Isenstadt

Kerri Simmons

Leo Simon

Anjali Singh

Karan Singh

Simren Singh

James Sirenne

Maryam Sizar

Panos Skoutelas

Elliott Sloate

Rachel Slobodien

Brandon Smith

Casey Smith

Charis Smith

Jared Smith

Simone Smith

Taylor-Omaree Smith

Kathryn Snedeker

Victoria Snodgrass

Samantha Snyder

Michala Sockol

Fikko Soenanta

Maddy Soffer

Tamara Soleymani

Catherine Sorensen

Christian Sorteberg

Andie Spadaccini

Jamila Spears

Aliza Spellman

Danielle Spencer

Nina Spensieri

Alexis Spiotta

Shreyas Srivathsan

Allison Stafford

Josephine Stair

Kirill Stakhovsky

Natéja Stanley

Amber Staples

Jennifer Statter

Mia Stein

Lindsay Steinberg

Caitlin Steinthal

Caitlin Stewart-Moore

Erin Andrea Stewartson

Alison Stockman

Shakira Stogdon-Battle

Julie Stone

Tsipora Stone

Summer Stovall

Audrey Strachan

John Strauss

Jennifer Strong

Matthew Strosnider

Miles Stroud

Haley Stuart

Shelia Suazo-Paz

Preeya Subedi

Yardena Sultan-Reisler

Daphnie Sumah

Douglas Summerlin

Jiaqi Sun

Ruth Surin

Daria Surmach

Arif Susa

Jhanae Swann

Alexandra Swann-White

Billy Swe

Caroline Swetonic

Mishaal Syednaveed

Jazmine Talley

Daniela Tamayo

Dongyan Tan

Jessica Tang

Wenrui Tang

Jillian Tankersley

Felicia Tanu

Daniel Tapia

Azi Tarshizi

Garrett Tatano

Alexandra Z Taylor

Carly Taylor

George Taylor

Lucy Taylor

Zachary Taylor

Dina Teclu

Katriella Tenembaum

Marnina Tenembaum

Keaton Tengwall

Wayni Tesfa

Nahom Tesfatsion

Blen Teshome

Lisa Thach

Nicholas Tharkur

Celina Thomas

Emily Thomas

Lauren Thomas

William Thomas

Daniel Thompson

Gregory Thompson

Anna Thormann

Adith Kumar Thummalapalli

Ni Tial

Grace Tietz

Lorella Tiku

Edwin Tilimian

Christina Tobin

Samuel Tolub

Ryan Tom

Oluwadolanimi Zoe Tope-Banjoko

Austin Toth

Austin Tracy

Tammy Tran

Paden Tranter

Camilo Trejos

Caitlin Trenkle

Jaclyn Troutner

Thomas Troy

Nam Truong

Eva Tsai

Jessica Tsai

Andrew Tse

Jack Tsintolas

Brandon Tsou

Jack Tuohy

Jacob Turetsky

Molly Turlington

Christian Turner

Florence Ugokwe

Elisha Bianca M Ugot

Abby Ulmer

Amanda Updegrove

Dilene Upendra

Aderonke Usman

Saya Usui

Paola Valerio

Meinhart Vallar

Yen Van

Brooke Vanmeter

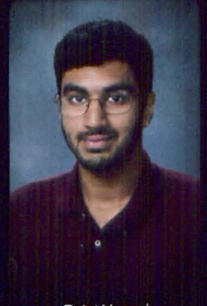
Chethra Vann

Nicholas Vanzelst

Franklin Vasquez

Laura Vasquez

Albert Velasquez



Rajat Vemuri

Ramya Vemuri

Dominick Vendeuvre

Ahron Verschleisser

Matias Vesperoni

Rosamae Vicencio

Jocelyne Videz

Yamelith Vigueras

Karla Villacis

Lauren Vogelpohl

Luan Vu

Iris Vukmanovic

Amy Vuong

Disha Waghode

Isabella Wajsowicz Macrae

Deeksha Walia

William A Walsh

Maia Walters

Amira Walton

Gloria Wan

Linyang Wang

Sabrina Wang

Tianle Wang

Yuanwen Wang

Quinton Ward

Raven Warren

Hannah Warther

Jasmine Washington

Ross Washington

Toni Washington

Hannah Watsky

Frank Watson

Sara Wei

W Wesley Weidenhamer II

Anna Weiler

Lauren Weiner

Adina Weinreb

Nicole Weinstein

Benjamin Weisbrot

Samuel Weiss

Brad Weissel

Tionna Wells

Erin Wernick

Kelin West

Olivia Westrich

Jeffrey Wexler

Kristina Whitaker

Alexandra White

Danielle White

Kelly White

Olivia White

Matthew Whiteley

Nina Whiting

Kyra Whitley

Tyra Whitley

Melissa Whitney

Cameron Widdoss

Lea Widemann

Madeline Wilbur

Zachary Wilkoff

Alexis Williams

Ava Williams

Maia Williams

Morgan Williams

Richard Williams

Phillip Willis Jr

Timothy Wilmot

Micayla Wilson

Natalie Wilson

Rosie Wilson

Taylor Wilson

Rafael Wind

Seyram Arsene Woglo

Root Woldu

Hayley Wolf

Alexa Wolfe

Samuel Won

Ammanuel Wondwossen

Alexander H Wooden

Brian Woodson Jr

Casey Wooten

Craven Wright

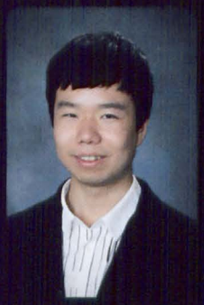
Sydni Wright

Thomas Wright

Annie Wu

Regita Wulandari

Yineng Xia



Tianrun Xiong

Marvin Xu

Scott Yablon

Kaitlyn Yale

Daniel Yang

Qijun Yang

Sichen Yang

Xue Yang

Zheren Yang

Emily Yankovich

Aniya Yarborough

Anam Yasin

Berna Yazici

Jennifer Ye

Michael Yeager

Timothy Yelton

Anastasia Yin

Joseph Yinusa

Hojin Yoon

Brionna Young

Candace Young

Charles Young

Jasmine Young

Zhixuan Yu

Charmaine Yuan

Christopher Yue

Elizabeth Zabala

Helana Zagami

Asad Zaidi

Vincent Zanolli

Sean Zaranski

Debora Zetino

Ellen Zhang

Huasun Zhang

Xinyue Zhang

Amy Zhao

Amy Zheng

Dunhuan Zheng

Jennifer Zheng

Mengyi Zhong

Angela Zhou

Mary Zhou

Sabrina Zhou

Heng Zhuang

Raquel Zimmerman

Marc Zolotarev

Clubs and Organizations

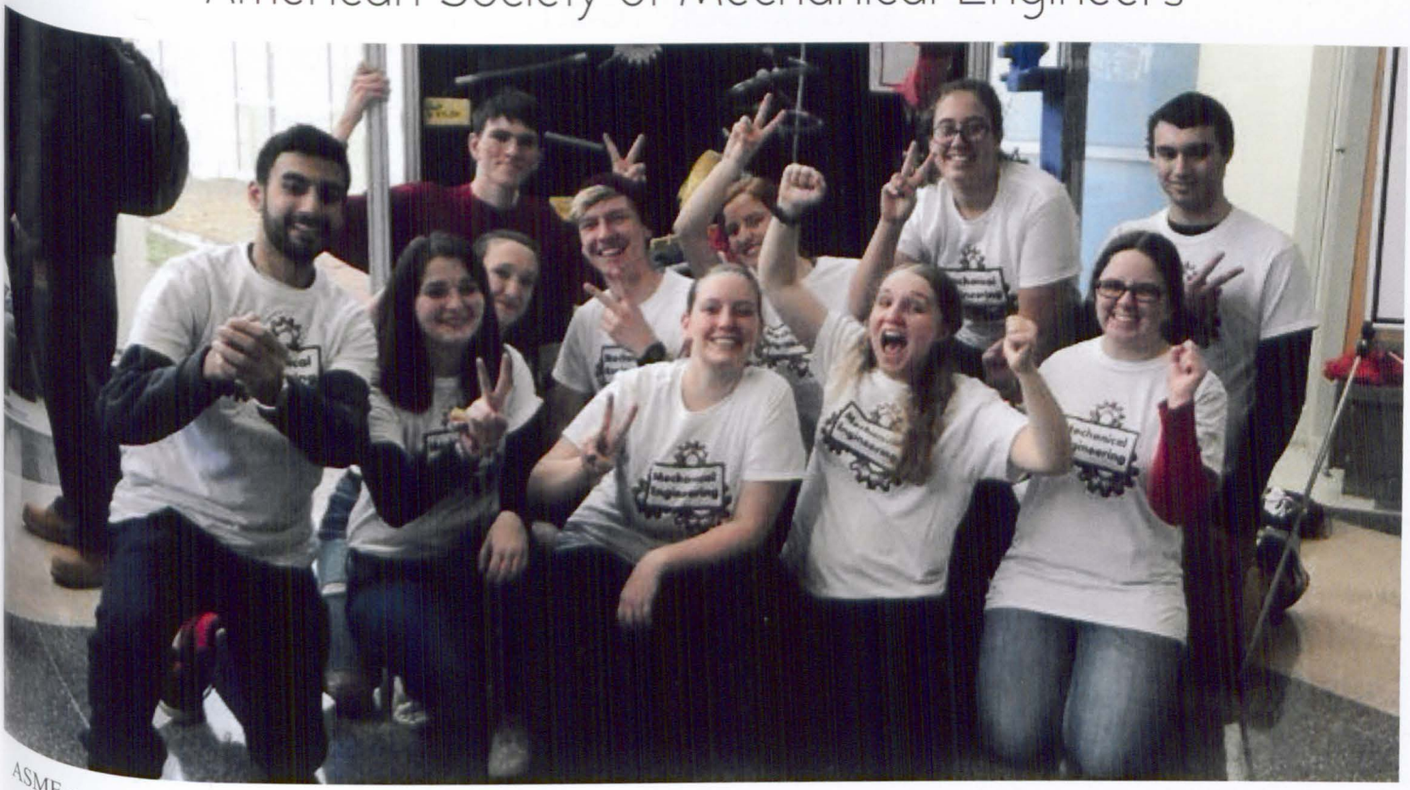
Air Force ROTC

UMD's "Old Line Wing" - Air Force ROTC Detachment 330, taken in the spring of the entire cadet core.

Association of Latinx Professionals For America (ALPFA)

Graduating Seniors: Josue Argueta, Luis Orellana, Amilcar Romero, Genesis Herrera, Vanessa Herrera, Jose Lozano, Michael Rodriguez

American Society of Mechanical Engineers



ASME members taking a picture with the Rube Goldberg machine they built for the Alumni Cup 2020 competition after they placed 2nd!

Army ROTC Cadet Association

Spirit Shirt Battalion Photo: This photo was taken on March 2 to raise awareness for Giving Day. It was after a morning PT session conducted three times per week to maintain the physical standards needed for an Army lifestyle.

Black Belt Team

Taken after practice!

Coalition of Latinx Student Organizations

CLSO Executive Board at the 2nd Annual Latinx Heritage Month Gala. From left to right. Gabriela Human, Laura Quiñones, Graciela Grijalava, Alanis Rivera, Kevin Lizman, Lourdes Gomez, Odri Raimundo, Raquel Nolasco.

Ethnobeat

Ethnobeat Fall Show. Ethnobeat, University of Maryland's premier world music a cappella group, held its fall show at the Garden Chapel. The group sang songs in different languages at numerous events on- and off-campus this year.

Figure Skating Club

Figure Skating Club members competing in the US Figure Skating Association's intercollegiate competition series at the Liberty Flames Classic. Rosemary Wilson (right) will be graduating with the class of 2020.

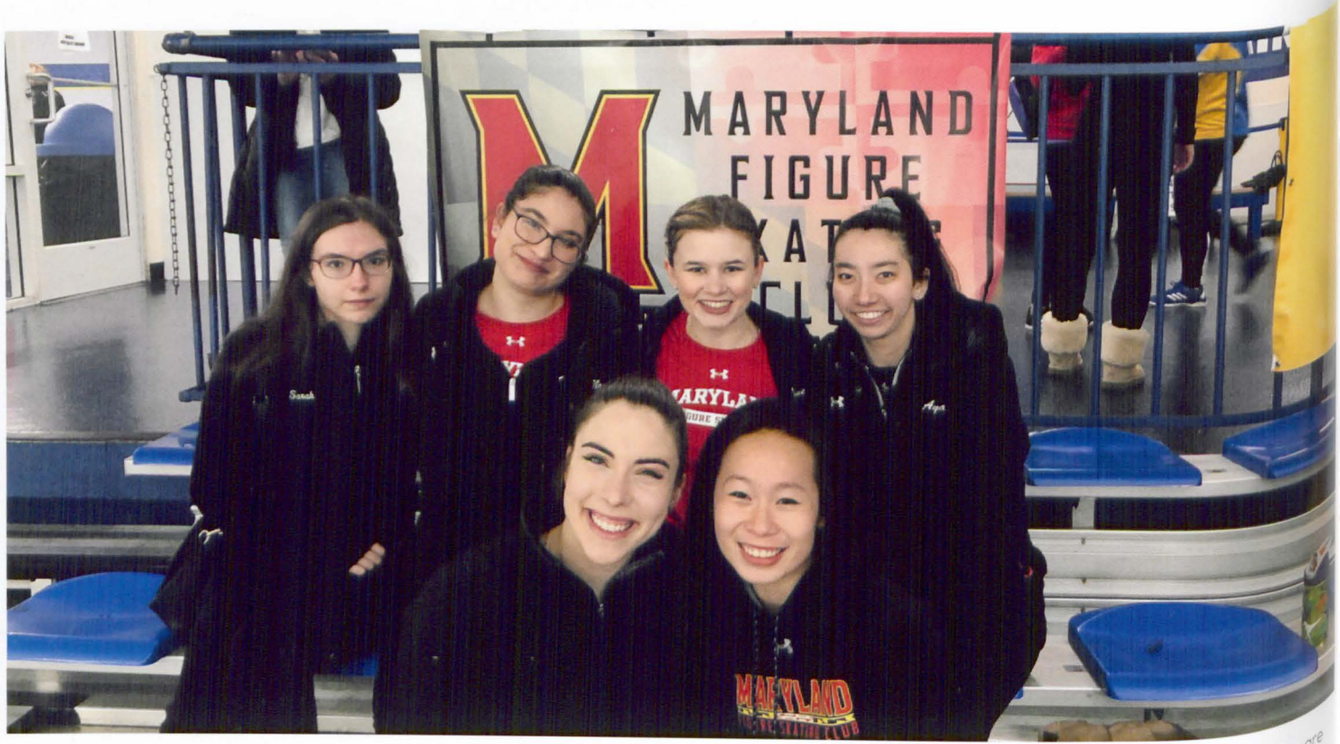


Figure Skating Club team members compete at the Blue Hen Ice Classic. March 7-8, 2020. Nora Sussman, Rosemary Wilson and Aya Peters are the graduating seniors pictured.

Food Science Club

University of Maryland Food Science Club Representing UMD at the Institute of Food Technologists College Bowl Competition

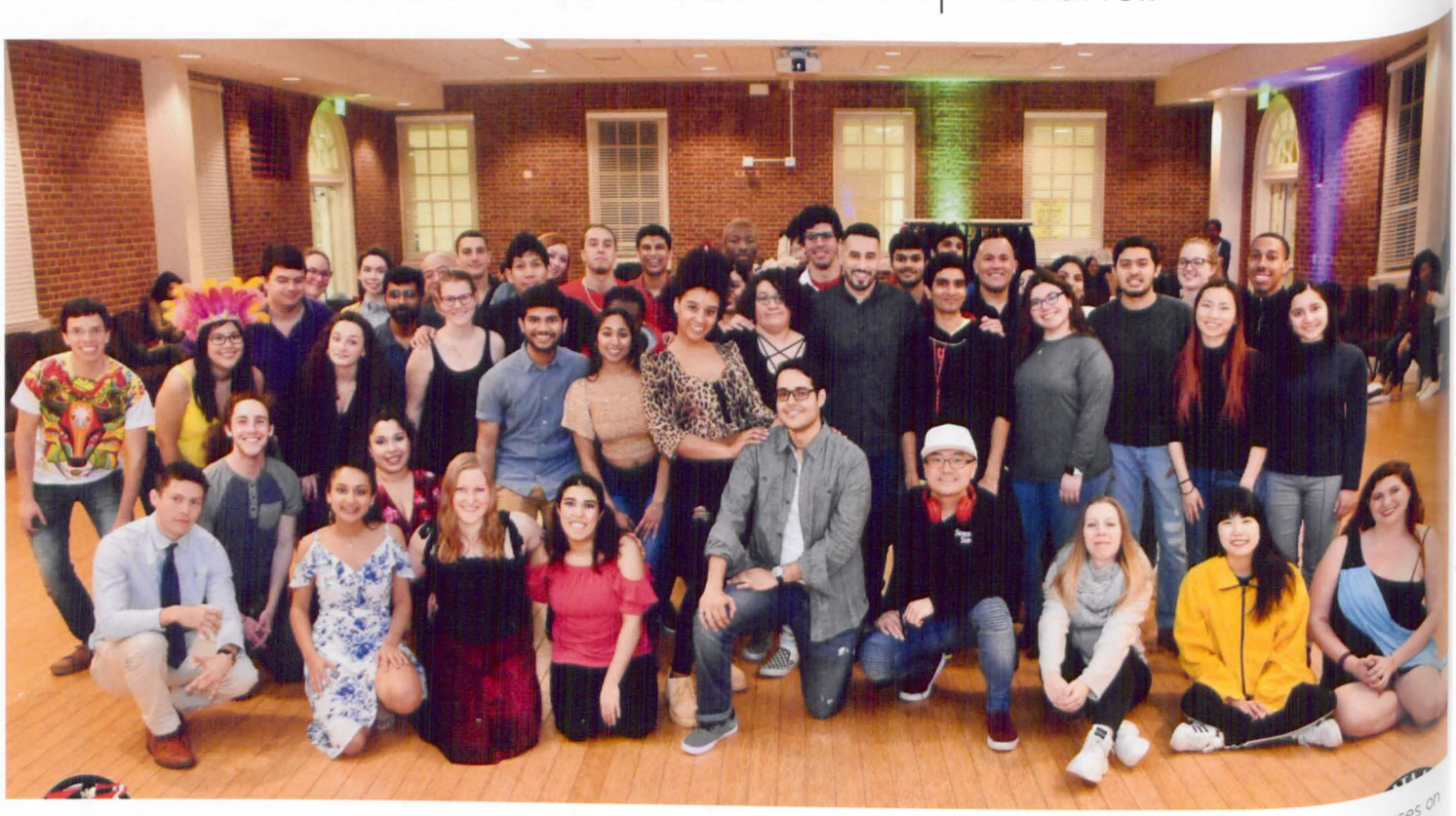
Latin Dance Club

The Maryland Latin Dance Club at their Spring Carnival social.

Linguistics Club

Book Lab Tour: UMD Linguistics Club learns to use printing at the English department's Book Lab presses.

Student Alumni Leadership Council



2020 SALC Retreat: The 3rd annual training retreat for new and returning SALC ambassadors took place on January 26, 2020. SALC focuses on programs and initiatives that inspire a sense of community between Terps across generations while instilling lifelong loyalty to their alma mater.

Tianyi Dance Team

Tianyi Dance Team performs "Sleeves in the Breeze" for GWU's 20th Annual Lunar New Year Show .Graduating Seniors: Ben Chen, Tim Li, Kellen Liu, Justin Sher.

Club Water Polo

UMD Club Water Polo traveled to FSU in Tallahassee, FL for a Water Polo tournament this spring.

Women in Aeronautics and Astronautics

The WIAA Executive Board photographed at their annual, corporate sponsored WIAA Night in fall 2019.

Women's Club Soccer

Post-tournament smiles.

How Those Clubs Came to Be: First Look Fair

by Shruti Kumar

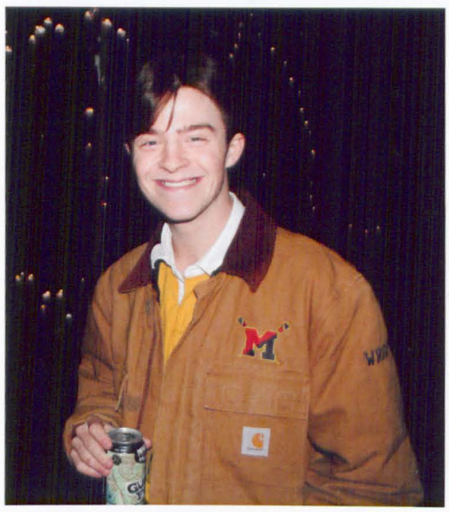
2019's First Look Fair took place on Sept. 11 and 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Boasted by the university as one of UMD's "longest-running involvement traditions," the fair draws nearly 600 student organizations, clubs, department services, vendors and community service organizations to the university's McKeldin Mall.

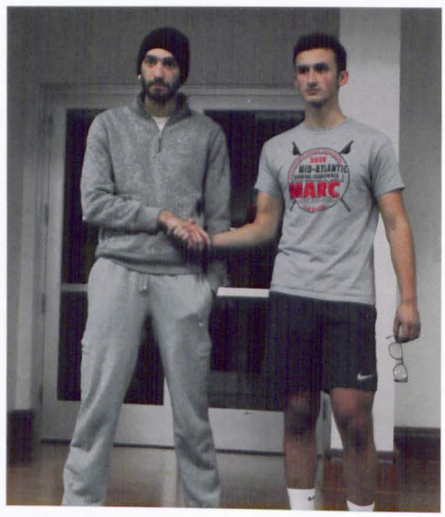
According to the Student Organization Resource Center, the categories for the organizations and clubs were academic/honorary, cultural, general, Greek, religious, service/advocacy and sports club. The academic/honorary section comprised clubs geared toward supporting students' academic passions and professional fraternities, such as Technica Hacks and Delta Epsilon Mu. The cultural section included clubs dedicated to cultivating and encouraging the university's diverse population, such as the Indian Students Association and the Maryland Latin Dance Club.

The general section was the largest fair neighborhood with over 100 organizations catering to a variety of interests, such as the Terrapin Photography Club and the University of Maryland Student Government Association. The Greek section advertised organizations like Greek InterVarsity, while the religious section was dedicated to religious student groups like the Muslim Students' Association. The service/advocacy section consisted of numerous organizations diligently working to improve our community, such as Students Helping Honduras and Terps Against Hunger. Finally, the sports section contained nearly 70 athletic organizations, including the Gymkana Troupe and Maryland Club Tennis.

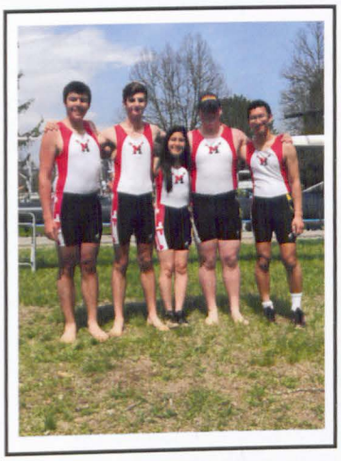
First Look Fair 2019 was sponsored by Alloy by Alta, South Campus Commons, University View, Cash App, Vera Bradley and numerous others. For more information and a full list of the First Look Fair 2019 sponsors, please visit the Stamp First Look Fair Sponsors page.

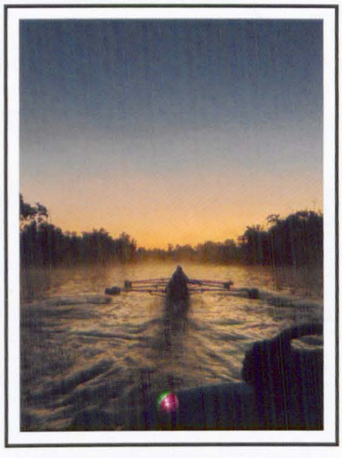
Special Dedication: Maryland Men's Crew

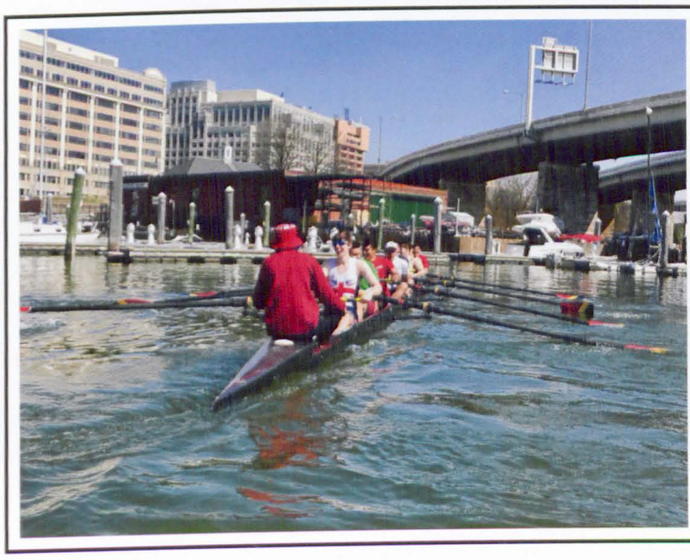




Four Years as a Team, A Lifetime as Brothers







Greek Life

When I joined Greek Life my freshman year of college, a curtain opened up and revealed a new part of campus life that I could participate in as much as—or as little as—I wanted to.

I see my time spent in Greek Life as though I'm flipping through the pages of a photo album. The memories are still frames in my mind of the times where I was happy and free.

And through the pictures I can smell the musty wood of my old sorority house as I run through the hallways, popping in room after room; or hear the big belly laughs from the ridiculous stories. I can see us walking through the doors of a 7-Eleven at midnight to get a coffee before a McKeldin all-nighter, or stepping into a big inflatable bubble and to kick a ball for a charity event. I can even see us watching a group of people in Greek Life dressed as Santa Claus riding down College Ave on a tractor singing Christmas carols because hey, "it just happens during this time of year."

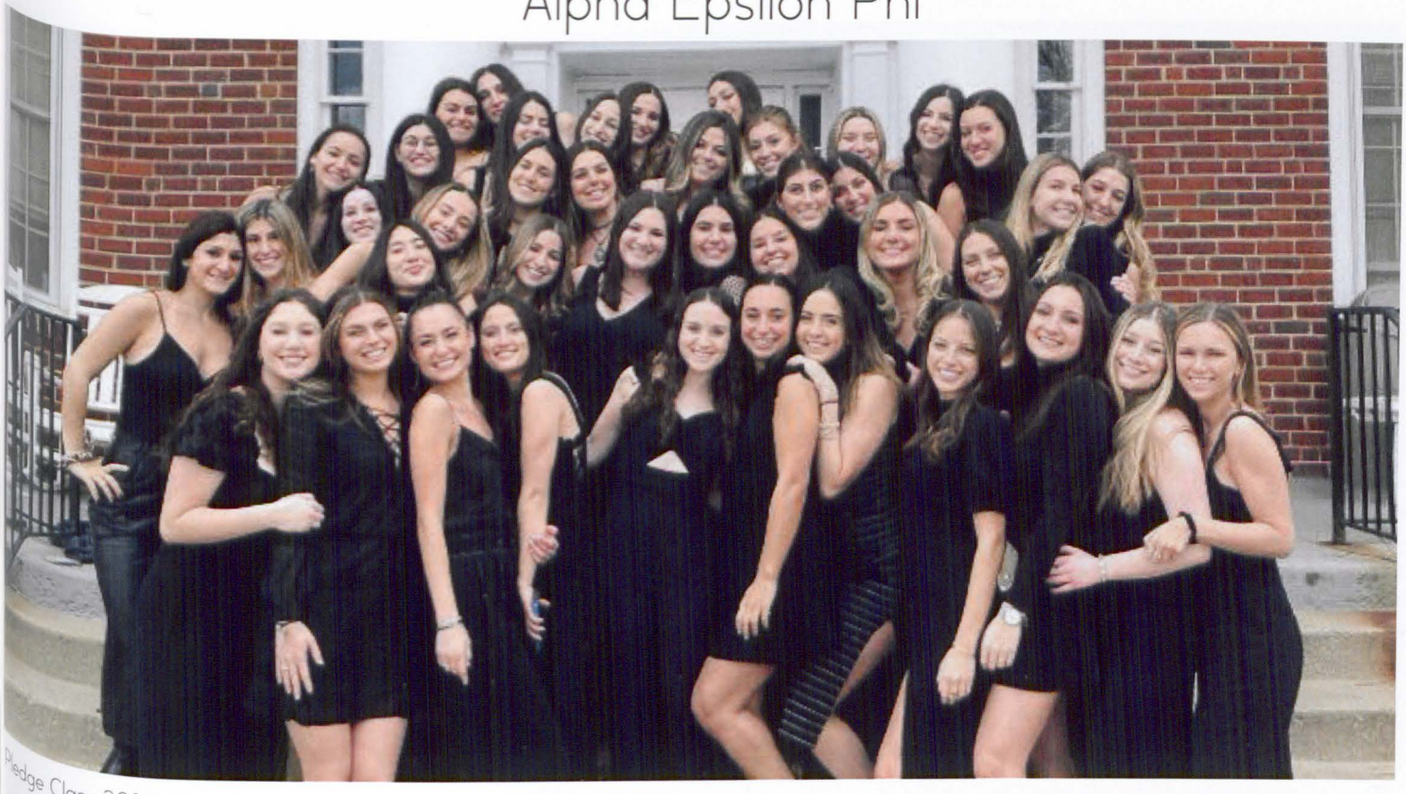
Greek Life is an odd world where the days aren't normal, and every second is a chance to make a memory. I'm grateful for the people I have met, the places I have traveled, and the person I have become because of it.

- Carly Haynes, Class of 2020 - Kappa Delta

Alpha Delta Pi

Molly Ahearn, Kim Alexander, Jacqualine Asuquo, Maddie Boelke, Katie Bouvier-Weinberg, Megan Croly, Aislin Fay, Sara Fleischer, Hannah Grabill, Ashley Hannigan, Natalie Jones, Kat LaTour, Heather MacLean, Rebecca Merritt, Adrianna Miralles, Bailey Murtha, Grace Myers, Sara Ramotnik, Sabrina Riordan, Julia Romyn, Jill Scott, Zoey Senzel, Ilham Shoja, Leo Simmons, Erica Weiss, Anna Woytko

Alpha Epsilon Phi



Pledge Class 2017 all graduated Alpha Epsilon Phi in 2020.

Delta Phi Epsilon

(from left) Katlyn Purser, Abbie Malloy, Sarah Budlow, Ali Yurman, Ireland Lesley, Dominique Giuffrida, Bridget Divers, and Kaitlin O'Dowd

Kappa Delta

Kappa Delta Bid Day 2017 - Pledge Class of 2020.

Phi Sigma Sigma

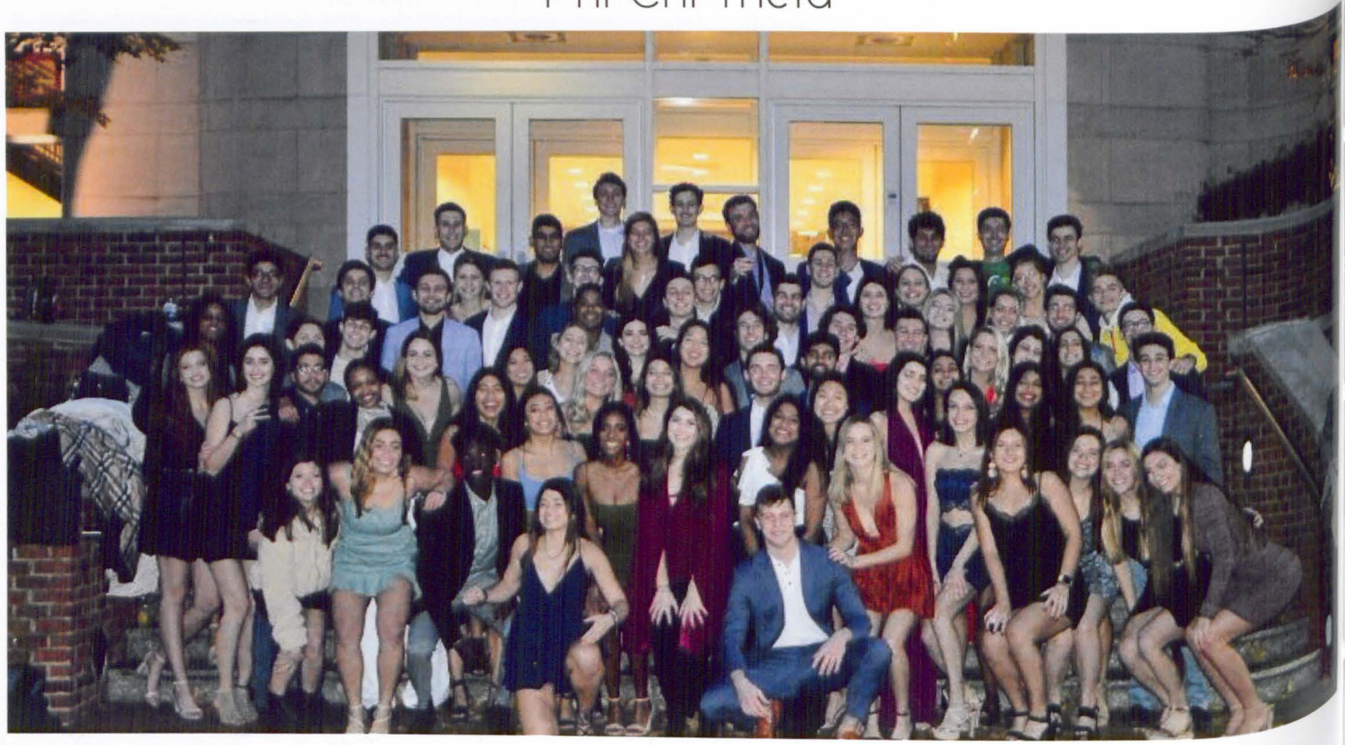
Ally Goldberg, Amanda Schecter, Amanda Shanab, Brooke Kiront, Caroline Berkman, Chloe Cohen, Dori Schwartz, Holly Greenberg, Ilana Hoffman, Ilona Ehrlich, Jackie Bartha, Julia Carey, Kendall Herman, Lindsey Collins, Maddie Berman, Monica Cipriano, Rachel Garner, Rachel Slobodien, Rachel Warren, Samantha Levin, Sarah Graffigna, Sydney Sable

Sigma Alpha Mu, Upsilon Chapter

The brothers of Sammy celebrating the holidays together. This is a picture of the Sigma Chi chapter of Sigma Alpha Mu, established at the University of Maryland in 1933.

Lambda Theta Alpha, Upsilon Chapter

Phi Chi Theta



Phi Chi Theta Fall '19 Formal Pictures (Van Munching Hall, 11/22/19): Business majors love to have fun too!

Sigma Delta Tau

Senior students Rachel Barnett, Brianna Beshkin, Josie Black, and Lauren Decastro pose for a photo at Sigma Delta Tau's philanthropy event for Prevent Child Abuse America.

Sigma Kappa

The graduating seniors of Sigma Kappa at Bid Day, welcoming their new members!

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SENIOR SEASONS SLASHED

After the coronavirus pandemic cut their 2020 seasons short, spring sports athletes were granted an extra year of eligibility by the NCAA. For seniors, this meant a choice: stay on for one final season in the hopes of getting a proper send-off or forgo their final year of eligibility and end their college careers. Here are two of those seniors' stories.

Defender Meghan Doherty finished her Maryland lacrosse career with two championships. Even though coronavirus granted seniors an extra season of eligiblity, she decided to step away.

Photo by Gabby Baniqued / The Diamondback

Sports

Women's Lacrosse: Meghan Dohe

Defender Meghan Doherty during Maryland women's lacrosse's 19-6 season-opening win over George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, on Feb. 8, 2020. (Julia Nikhinson/The Diamondback)

herty

by David Suggs

Of all the decisions Meghan Doherty has made in her life, it was her last as Maryland women's lacrosse captain that proved the most difficult.

Last May, Doherty was at her pinnacle: T-shirt draped over her jersey and wrapped in an embrace with her teammates as they lifted the national championship trophy at Homewood Field in Baltimore.

Then a redshirt junior, Doherty thought she had more time: one last chance to add another piece of hardware to her collection, the third title of her career.

But, unbeknownst to her, the coronavirus pandemic would strike. Her senior season was cut short. And as the NCAA mulled a decision about eligibility for spring sports athletes, Doherty had one to make, too: stay for a sixth season — giving herself the chance to have the storybook ending she envisioned when she first arrived in College Park — or go, and start her professional journey as an occupational therapist.

She chose the latter.

"It was time for me to move on," Doherty said. "As much as I didn't want to."

However, as Doherty prepares for the next stage of her life, she harkens back to the memory of gripping that championship trophy for the last time, surrounded by her closest friends. She has countless other experiences, too, from five years of peaks, troughs, forced turnovers and ground balls.

She wouldn't have it any other way.

"This program has been extremely special and given me such great opportunities to become a better person," Doherty said. "I've met some of the best people in the entire world playing at Maryland."

After waltzing to the national title last year, the Terps seemed poised to make yet another run. Doherty, made captain shortly before this season began, looked especially capable of leading coach Cathy Reese's brigade — the Ellicott City native was named to the Tewaaraton watchlist, among other preseason honors.

But Maryland struggled out the gate, seeing its 86-game home-winning streak snapped just two games into the year. Soon, one defeat turned into three, tying the Terps' total from the past two years combined.

While Reese's squad was trending upward at the time of the season's cancellation, its final record still reads 3-3, reflective of a talented-but-flawed squad that never really got it going.

For Doherty, though, Maryland's performances don't really matter, at least not now. They're not what she's going to hold on to as she moves into the next chapter of her life. Instead, it's the relationships that stuck out to her, a team united on — and off — the field.

"It was awesome to see how much our team grew into better friends," Doherty said. "I'm really thankful I got this opportunity to extend my friendships and really grow my opportunity to be a better friend, a better teammate."

It's a camaraderie that was reflected in that celebration at Homewood Field last May. And it's one that made her decision to forgo an extra year particularly difficult.

"For where I want to be headed in life and my future," Doherty said. "I had to make a tough call."

Her newfound independence has its perks, of course, especially when it comes to working out.

"It's a little bit of a relief, there's no pressure," Doherty said. "If I get tired in a run, I can walk and I don't have to feel like I'm messing up."

But it's been hard, too. Lacrosse — and the friend dominated Doherty's life since she first stepped o Complex. She still talks to her teammates every d

"It's been fun, honestly," Doherty said. "You get to and then they give you some good ideas."

It's not perfect, of course. But Doherty doesn't nee

ips that come with it — has
the Field Hockey and Lacrosse
through Zoom or group FaceTime.

r what people are doing to stay busy.

erfection. Not right now.

Not when she can replay that moment last May, jumping and smiling and yelling and celebrating with her teammates — her sisters — as they hoisted the crown of collegiate lacrosse.

She didn't know that would be one of her last victories in a Terps uniform. No one did. But, as far as final memories go, this one — full of adrenaline and unfettered joy — is pretty good.

And for that, she's grateful.

Men's Lacrosse: Nick Grill

Six games into Nick Grill's Maryland men's lacrosse career, it looked like it was over. The season was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"That was the first thing I thought of," Grill said. "'Well, that was a really hard way to finish your career.'"

Grill, a senior who transferred from Marquette last summer, had garnered praise for his impressive displays with the Golden Eagles, earning All-Big East honors in each of his three seasons. And by the end of Maryland's shortened season, the 5-foot-8 defender had carved out a starting role in the backline, forcing a team-high six turnovers and fielding in eight ground balls.

Grill knew he wanted more. He was already planning on staying at the university to finish up his degree, so, when the NCAA announced it would grant an extra year of eligibility to spring season athletes, Grill's choice was clear: He would be staying to play...

But, he has another opportunity to sport the red-and-gold, an opportunity he wasn't sure would exist. So, he's doing his best to ensure that whenever lacrosse comes back, he'll be ready.

"That just kinda made me want to give another year, give another go with the guys here at Maryland," Grill said. "Try to make up for lost time."

Grill came to College Park with the hopes of playing on the biggest of stages — the Big Ten championship, the NCAA final four. For all his individual success in Milwaukee, the Golden Eagles only qualified for the NCAA tournament once during his tenure.

And, despite the shortened season, he got a taste of the intensity he'd been looking for, the excitement that comes with playing for a national powerhouse. The double-overtime victory against Richmond and the 14-9 drubbing of No. 5 Notre Dame — Grill's first victory over the Fighting Irish in five tries — featured aggressive play and even more aggressive atmospheres.

"Having everyone circle you on the schedule and just get that intensity and atmosphere," Grill said. "I think it's really special."

It's what fuels Grill as he finds new ways to train — something that's been tough, he admits, without the team's strict training regimen and access to campus.

So, he tries to keep it simple.

"I'm trying to stay in shape, trying to run every day, trying to get outside," Grill said. "Making sure my body doesn't fall apart."

Grill's still trying to figure out how he'll work on his ball skills. Without most of his equipment, it's been a bit of a struggle so far. But, it doesn't faze him too much — after all, he doesn't need a lot.

"[I'm] just trying to get a stick in my hands and just trying to find a wall," Grill said.

Despite the challenges he faces, Grill keeps plugging away. He doesn't know when he'll be back in College Park or which teammates he'll be playing with. But, he's hoping his efforts now — running on his own, working out in his family's confines — will pay off when he eventually makes his return to Maryland Stadium. For now, he's focusing on getting his body and mind right for next season.

And in this moment of great uncertainty, it's all he can do.

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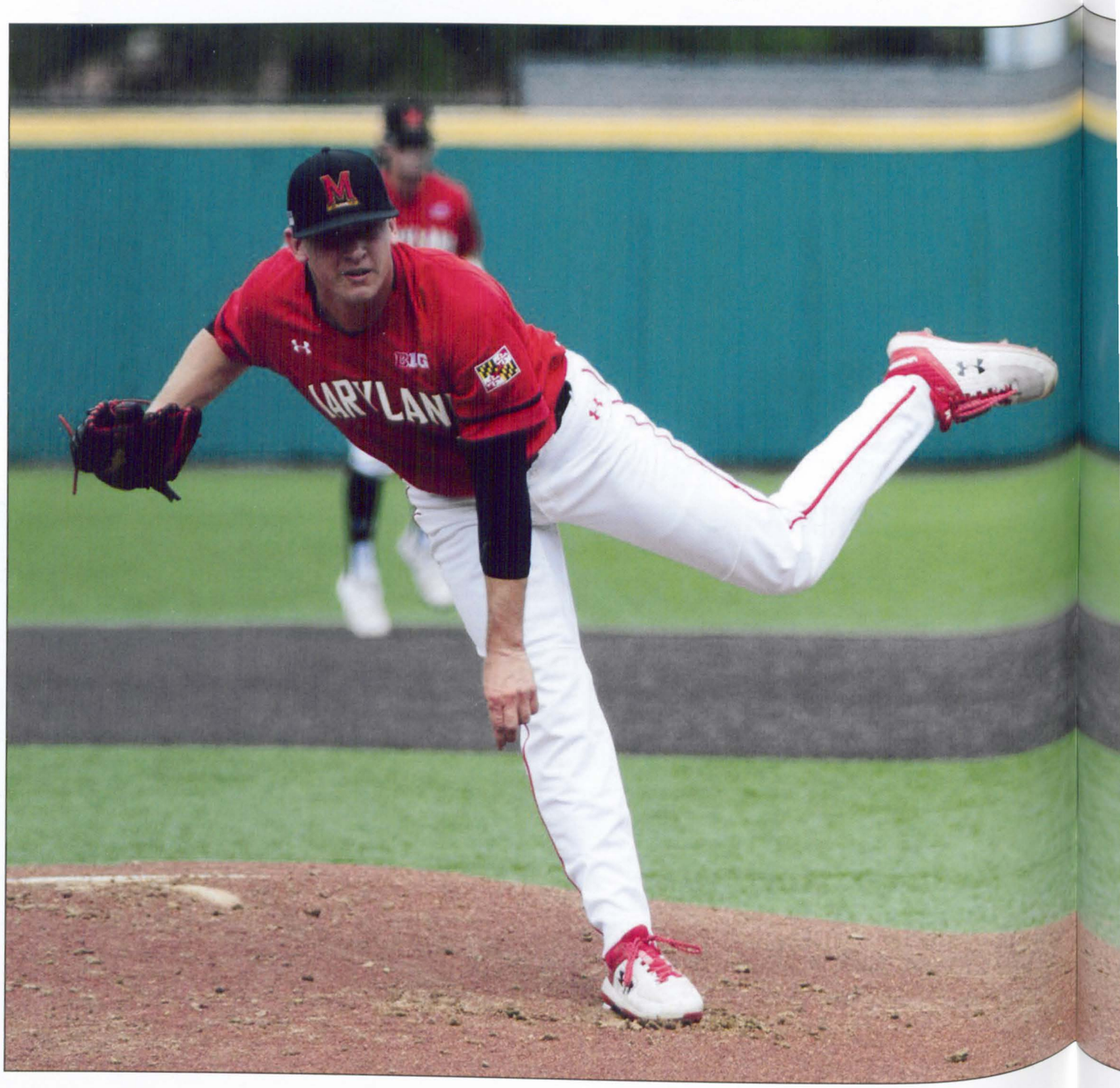
Baseball: Seniors look to make most of extra year of eligibility



Left-hander Tyler Blohm fires a pitch during Maryland baseball's 10-8 win over Iowa on May 18, 2019. (Julia Nikhinson / The Diamondback)

When pitcher Tyler Blohm first heard news that Maryland baseball's season was over due to the coronavirus pandemic, he couldn't process his emotions.

The senior left-hander had just finished an arduous rehab of a shoulder injury and was set to make his season debut that upcoming weekend against TCU. But the season's end meant he never got a chance to toe the rubber, and it seemed his college career had drawn to a premature close.

So, when the NCAA granted an extra year of eligibility to spring athletes in March, Blohm did not take long to make a decision about his future.

"I had a pretty good understanding that I was coming back to Maryland to finish my final year," he said.

Though the NCAA extended eligibility relief to all spring athletes, there were some complications: It left financial aid decisions about student-athletes who exhausted eligibility in 2019-20 up to individual schools. For Blohm and Elliot Zoellner – the Terps' only other senior – that meant waiting to hear from Maryland whether their scholarships would be extended.

So, when coach Rob Vaughn told his two seniors in late April the school would cover their extra year, Blohm's decision was set.

"I'm forever grateful for [Maryland]," Blohm said. "Once they gave me a chance to come back, I knew I was going to jump on it, because I feel there is a lot of unfinished business with this team, and we're all just getting started."

Blohm has battled arm problems for much of the past two years: His 2018 season ended prematurely with shoulder soreness, and he only tossed 15 innings in 2019. Though his shoulder is now fully healed, Blohm did not get a chance to showcase the talents that made him 2017 Big Ten Freshman of the Year this season.

But there is a silver lining. The southpaw now has extra time to work back to his pre-injury levels, which his coaches hope will allow him to get stronger and be fully prepared heading into 2021.

"I think that's only going to serve to give him a better shot to be successful and get back to the Tyler Blohm we all know that's in there," Vaughn said

While the decision was simple for Blohm, it was more difficult for Zoellner.

The right-hander had committed to a job at business services company Cintas after graduation. And when Zoellner learned the season was over, he didn't know how to handle the news.

"It didn't really sink in for a day or two because at first, you're like, 'I guess I just don't have baseball today,'" he said. "But after a little while, you start to realize, 'I don't have baseball anymore.'"

Zoellner was then faced with a difficult choice. On one hand, he had job security; on the other, he had one more chance to compete with his teammates.

In the end, he fulfilled both desires.

Zoellner got into a graduate program in this university's business school and was able to defer his employment with Cintas to the summer of 2021, clearing a path to stay with the Terps for a fifth year.

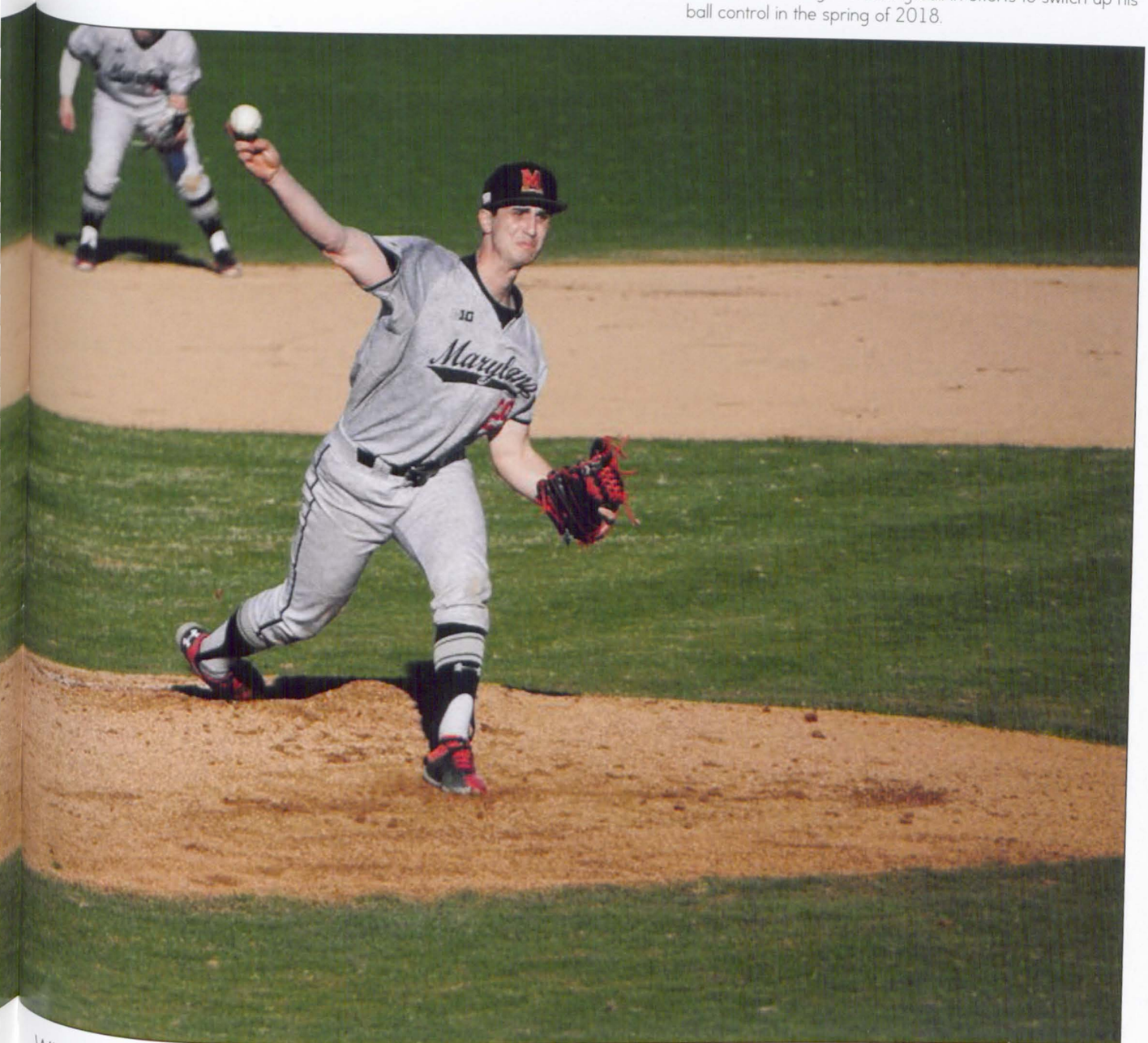
"Just being able to come back and play one more year with my brothers is something you can't really pass up," he said.

His decision to return will boost Maryland's bullpen. The sidewinding, junk-throwing right-hander tossed 11 scoreless relief innings this season, striking out 16 and walking just three while leading the team with a microscopic 0.64 WHIP.

"That was just like signing a big-time recruit, getting that guy back," Vaughn said.

Now, both players are turning their focus to staying in shape while stuck at home. The team is treating the situation like any regular offseason, with players routinely working out, throwing and hitting in whatever way they can.

Zoellner delivering a breaking ball in efforts to switch up his ball control in the spring of 2018.



While the Terps are unsure when they will be able to hit the diamond again, Blohm and Zoellner said there is an eagerness to build on what was shaping up to be a promising 2020 campaign. And with the entire roster currently set to return, they could do just that.

"The potential of this group and the chemistry of this group is unprecedented, at least to me in my four years here," Zoellner said.

Men's Soccer

by Eric Myers

Coming off a national championship in 2018, Maryland men's soccer entered the season with a target on its back. The Terps staked claim to the College Cup, and other teams were gunning to unseat them from the top of college soccer.

Maryland, meanwhile, wasn't focused on defending what it had accomplished a year before — rebounding from a winless four-game start to the season to secure a national championship.

Instead, the Terps were focused on the pursuit of another title. As forward Eric Matzelevich put it in late August, "We're not defending a national championship. We're trying to chase one again."

But as the chase took on the winding path of the season, Maryland encountered an abundance of obstacles in the form of injuries, derailing its pursuit of a return to the pinnacle of the sport.

Injuries doom title pursuit

A trainer tends to defender Ben Di Rosa during Maryland soccer's 4-0 win over Iona College in the first round of the NCAA tournament on Nov. 21, 2019. (Richard Moglen/The Diamondback)

"Some years you win championships, and you feel incredibly satisfied," coach Sasho Cirovski said following his team's 3-0 NCAA tournament loss to Wake Forest. "And some years, you have a team like we've had this year, where we've taken on the mantle of being the reigning champion, one of the hardest schedules in the country — we stood tall — [and] we lost bodies along the way."

Nowhere but Up

Malcolm Johnston runs over to his adoring fans after scoring a header to put the Terps up 1-0 over USF.

Maryland did still find success despite the rash of injuries that decimated the depth of the team. The Terps enjoyed ranked victories over then-No. 9 St. John's, then-No. 14 Cal State Fullerton, then-No. 6 Indiana and then-No. 24 Yale.

The team's lack of depth was apparent in other moments, though. Sluggish losses against then-No. 12 Virginia, then-No. 12 Georgetown and Penn State all came after short-recovery periods.

"It's tough to come out with a lot of energy when you're having a long day, it's a long weekend [and] you don't really have much recovery time," midfielder Nick Richardson said after the Terps grinded out a tough victory on short rest over Villanova on Sept. 16.

Despite the setbacks and defeats, Maryland advanced to the second round of the Big Ten tournament and gave top-seeded Indiana all it could handle before falling on a penalty kick in double overtime.

In that game, goalkeeper Niklas Neumann, who won an early-season goalkeeper position battle with Russell Shealy and had a standout season to earn a spot on the All-Big Ten second team, made a career-high eight saves to extend the match.

"I felt kind of in a zone," Neumann said after the defeat. "I didn't really think about anything else. I mean, it's always kind of like that when you're playing. But sometimes, you just feel it a little bit differently — it's difficult to describe."

Next year, Cirovski's squad will be without Crognale's leadership and attacking production (four goals and five assists) and defender Johannes Bergmann's steady presence on the backline of the defense.

Outside of those two departures — and the loss of Luke Brown, who added a goal in his only season at Maryland after transferring to the program — the Terps are set to return the rest of their roster.

Neumann, St. Martin, Ben and Matt Di Rosa and Richardson form an experienced defense from the midfield back to the goal. And the attack is projected to return its leading scorers in Matzelevich and other goal scorers such as Justin Gielen, Malcolm Johnston and David Kovacic.

Should all go well with their respective recoveries, Bin, Herve and Padilla are also set to provide reinforcements to the attacking third.

"All I can tell you is that we'll be back stronger next year," Cirovski said, "and we will be contending."

10 Best Moments in Sports from the Class of 2020

by David Suggs

A Perfect Season for Women's Lacrosse
May 29, 2017

Led by 50-goal scorers Caroline Steele and Kali Hartshorn and 70-goal scorer Meghan Whittle, the Terps capped off an undefeated season with a 16-13 victory over Boston College at Gillette Stadium to hoist the national championship trophy — the program's fourth title during Cathy Reese's tenure.

Men's Lax Championship: 42 Years in the Making
May 29, 2017

Maryland carries one of the most storied programs in the country. However, for all its success in the ACC and Big Ten, the Terps hadn't won a title in 42 years. Just one day after the women's lacrosse team lifted the trophy, though, coach John Tillman's defeated Ohio State 9-6 to end the drought.

Football beats Texas in first game back after McNair's death: September 1, 2018

The summer of 2018 was a turbulent one for Maryland football. On June 13, Jordan McNair died after suffering a heat stroke following an offseason workout. An investigation was launched, eventually leading to coach DJ Durkin's dismissal. Then-quarterbacks coach Matt Canada took over as interim coach, leading the Terps out on FedEx Field to take on No. 23 Texas. Despite a lengthy rain delay, Canada's squad eked out a 34-29 victory, courtesy of a three-touchdown performance by wide receiver Jeshaun Jones.

Hannah Bond saves the day, keeps Maryland field hockey's tournament dreams alive: Nov. 11, 2018

Hannah Bond felt it all when she dove toward the goalmouth deep into overtime of Maryland field hockey's quarterfinal matchup with UConn in 2018. The pellets of turf that spewed from the Field Hockey and Lacrosse Complex ground, the wooden frame of the goal, the ball striking her stick and deflecting away from goal. And when midfielder Madison Maguire rocketed a shot into the net a few minutes later to send the Terps to the final four, Bond felt yet another sensation: victory.

Men's soccer seizes the national championship: Dec. 9, 2018

It wasn't a classic, not by any means. But the celebrations when midfielder Amar Sejdic slotted from the penalty spot were — the Terps enveloped Sejdic in a sea of white as he sprinted to the corner flag. It was a preview of what was to come, as Sejdic's goal was the difference, securing a 1-0 victory over Akron — and the third title of Sasho Cirovski's tenure.

Jalen Smith slams Maryland men's basketball past Belmont in NCAA tournament: March 21, 2019

Maryland has struggled in the tournament throughout Mark Turgeon's reign as coach. Just two years removed from a first-round defeat against Xavier, the Terps seemed poised to face a similar result against an upstart Belmont squad led by future draftee Dylan Windler. With 1:41 left and Maryland up one, Smith reeled in a pass, gathered, and took off, leaping above Windler's outstretched grasp to slam the ball home. It was all the Terps needed, advancing past the Bears 77-74. They would lose in the second round to LSU on a last-second Tremont Waters floater. But for Smith, it set the stage for an improved second season in which Smith emerged as one of the nation's best bigs.

Maryland women's golf returns to NCAA tournament for first time in seven years: April 24, 2019

It wasn't a certainty that Diana Cantu's squad would make the NCAA tournament. So, when the team packed into a Maryland Golf Course clubhouse, it was equal parts nervousness and excitement. Then, the Terps got the call. They made it. After seven years away, Maryland would be competing in an NCAA tournament. Virunpat Olankitkunchai, an All-Big Ten first-team selection, led the way, eventually securing a spot in the NCAA Championships — the first Terp to ever reach that point.

Women's lacrosse gets another chip
May 26, 2019

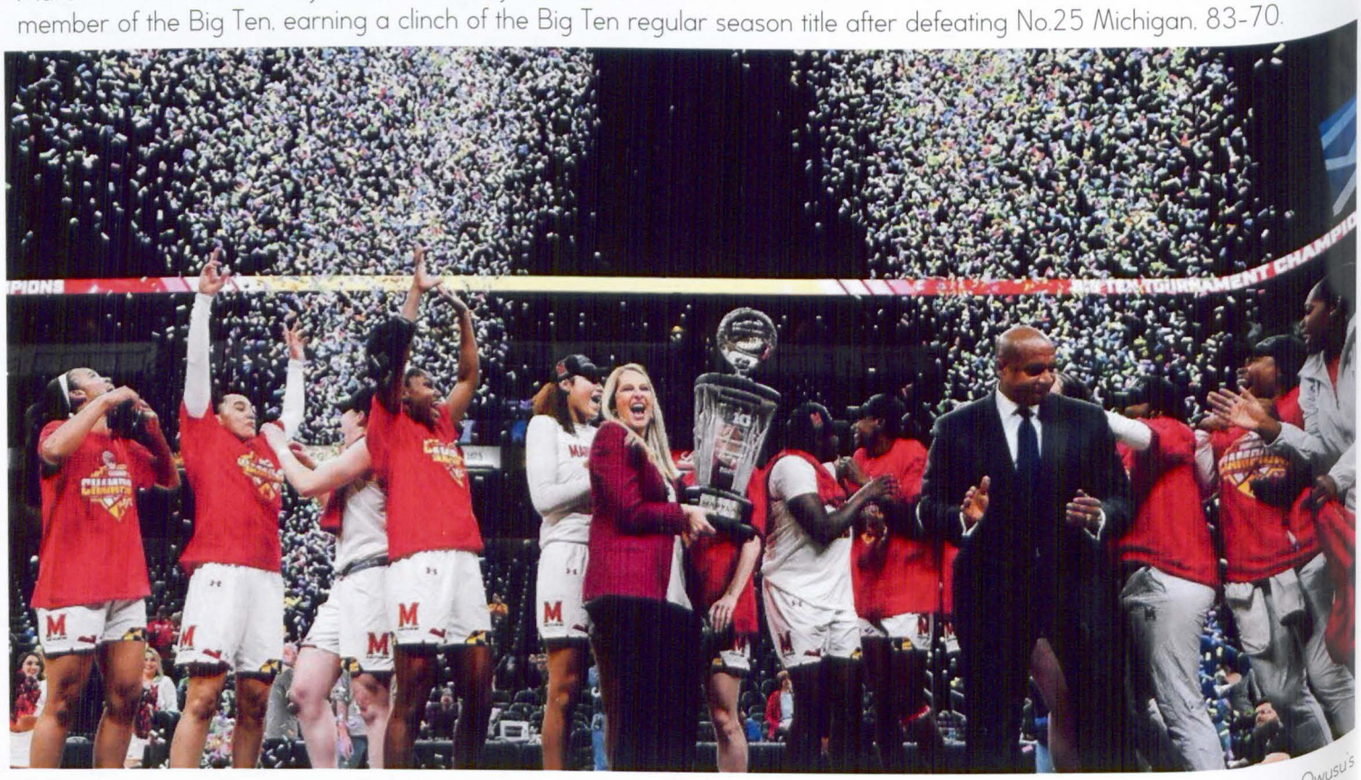
Cathy Reese's squad found itself in a position it has become used to throughout her tenure, playing for yet another national championship, this time at Homewood Field in Baltimore. In the finals, the Terps met the Golden Eagles once again. But, as was the case in that undefeated season in 2017, Maryland won out, claiming a 12-10 victory courtesy of hat-tricks from attacker Brindi Griffin and midfielder Grace Griffin. Tewaaraton-winning goalkeeper Megan Taylor made 10 saves to push the Terps over the line and clinch the program's 15th national championship.

Women's soccer earns first Big Ten tournament berth: Oct. 24, 2019

For much of coach Ray Leone's tenure, growth has been defined by incremental gains. However, the 2019 season was a watermark one for the Terps. Forward Alyssa Poarch earned third team All-Big Ten honors after scoring eight goals and, led by a well-balanced starting XI, Maryland finished with nine victories, good enough for a Big Ten tournament berth — its first appearance ever appearance.

Men's and women's basketball earn Big Ten crowns: March 8, 2020

March 8 was a historic day for both of Maryland's basketball teams. First, men's basketball clinched its first silverware as a member of the Big Ten, earning a clinch of the Big Ten regular season title after defeating No.25 Michigan, 83-70.



Meanwhile, in Indianapolis, women's basketball was mounting an impressive title challenge for itself. Led by Big Ten tournament MVP Ashley Owusu's 17-point, 11-assist display, Brenda Frese's squad cruised to an 82-65 victory over Ohio State — its first Big Ten tournament championship since 2017.

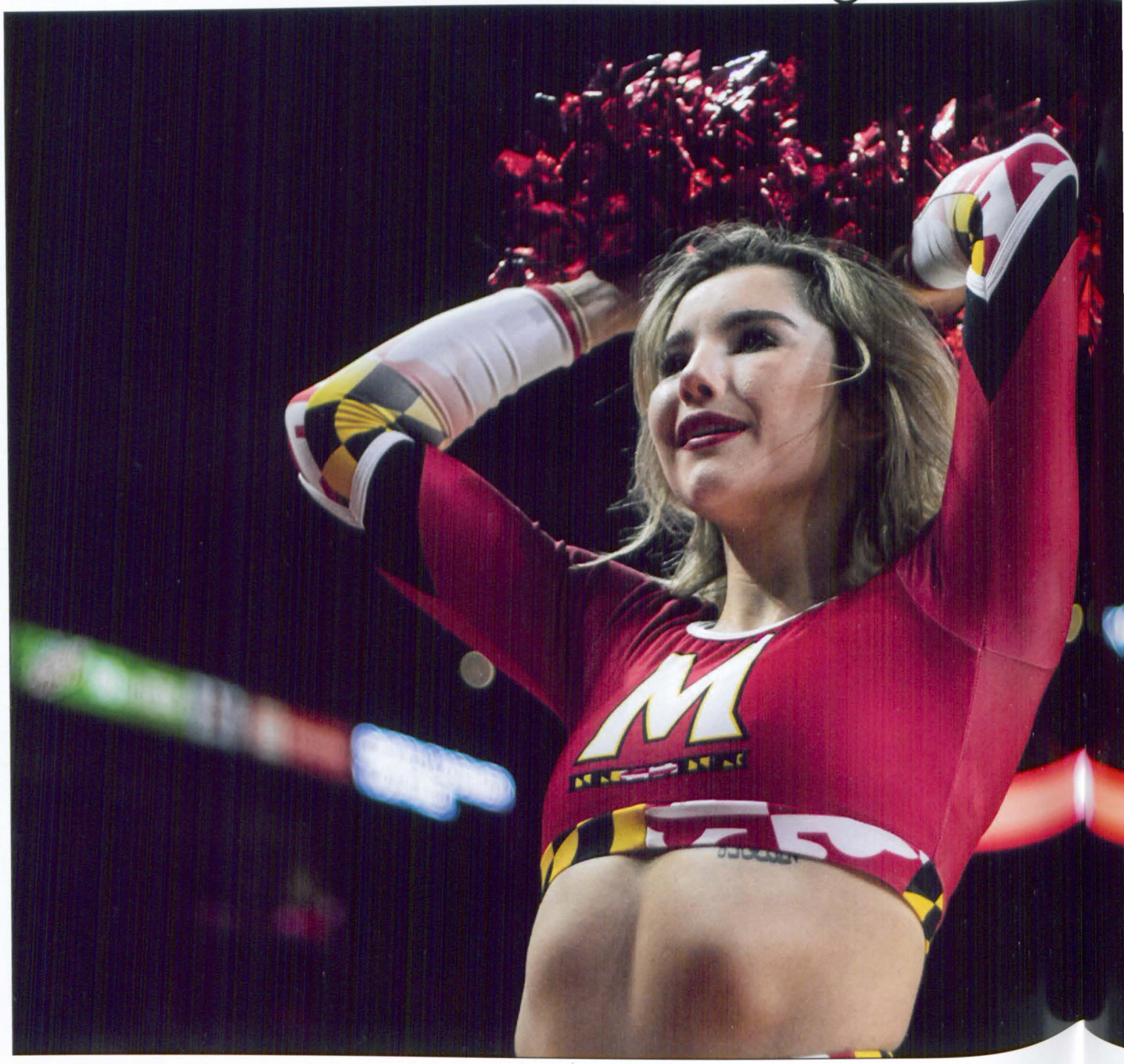
Honorable Mention: March 4, 2017

Melo Trimble hits a game-winning 3 against Michigan State.

With less than a second left and the scoreline between Maryland and Michigan State knitted at 60, Melo Trimble lifted up, well above Tum Tum Nairn's outstretched arm. He had been in this situation so many times before — clock winding down, game on the line, the Terps in need of an impact play from their impact guard. And like so many times before, Trimble delivered, knocking down the go-ahead three pointer to give Trimble the rapturous Xfinity Center sendoff he so desired.

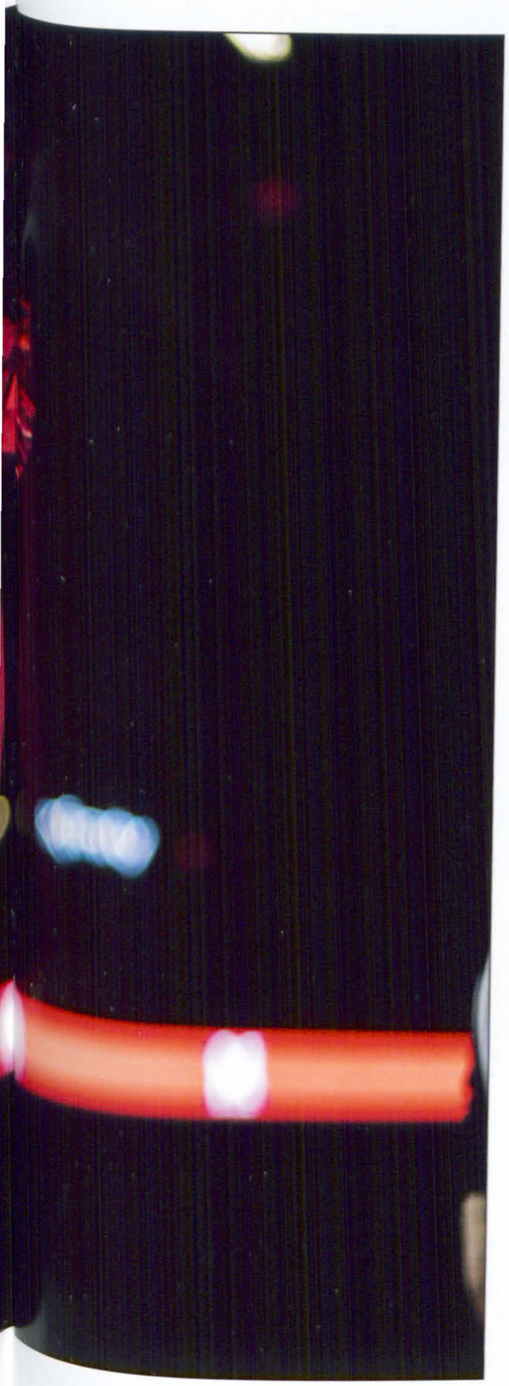
He lifted his jersey afterwards, revealing the Maryland logo to the raucous crowd. It was poetic for a player whose name and number seems destined to hang up in the rafters one day.

"Tears your heart out:" Senior band / cheer members grieve



Cheerleader Katie Hill performs during Maryland men's basketball's 82-72 win over Iowa on Jan. 30, 2020 in Xfinity Center. (Julia Nikhinson/The Diamondback)

premature end to final season



Matt Norfolk joined the University of Maryland's marching band in his freshman year, the week before classes began — and within days of his first practice, he knew he had found a new home amongst his bandmates.

"The band is a place where family is made," the senior kinesiology major said.

But in March, as the coronavirus began to ravage the United States, Norfolk's last semester with the band came to an abrupt end. First, the NCAA basketball tournaments were canceled, and with them went Norfolk's final chance to play them.

Then, this university announced the rest of the semester would be moved online. As Norfolk turned his trumpet in, he realized his senior year — and his time with the band — was suddenly over.

Norfolk's situation has resonated with seniors in groups such as band and cheer, who — unlike senior spring athletes, who retained an extra year of athletic eligibility — won't get the chance to spend another year alongside their teammates. And, despite their varying circumstances, some seniors have agreed on one thing: There's a lack of closure.

"You were looking forward to one last semester with them," Norfolk said. "And now it's just cut short."

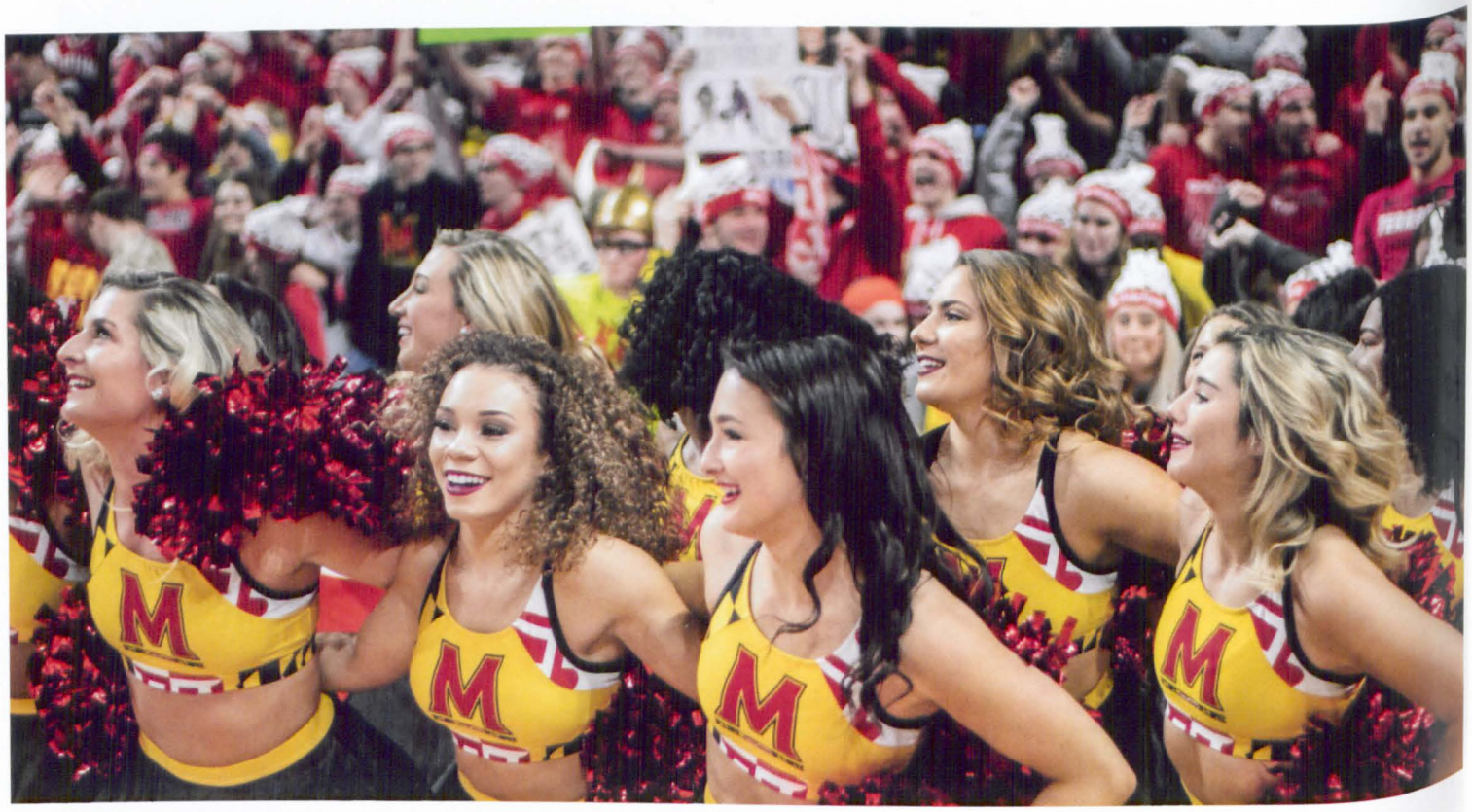
Katie Hill had waited for years for the cheerleading team's planned trip to the National Cheerleaders Association national championship this spring. While the team had qualified for the tournament during her four years, this was the first time that they had received a "fully paid bid" — a recognition that would've allowed them to attend the tournament for free.

In light of her four shoulder surgeries, Hill wasn't going to compete in the tournament. But she said she thought the team was healthier and more talented overall than in years past. They were ready to take on the competition, she said.

The team's last practices were in preparation for the NCAA tournaments, Hill said. At the time, they had no idea their season would end before the competition, and finding out "really sucked," she said.

"I didn't know it was my last game, didn't know it was my last practice, didn't know I didn't have Nationals," Hill said. "We don't have anything to honor our last season."

Hill wasn't the only cheerleader affected by the season's premature end. In her second semester on the team, Alex Swann-White was looking forward to hanging out with her teammates more. She was especially excited to attend this year's NCAA tournament games — as a basketball fan, it was something she had always hoped to do.



"Finding out not being able to go was really upsetting, especially because I am a senior, so this was my chance to get to go," the elementary education major said.

Though their time with their groups came to an early end, several seniors said they were glad for the memories they made over the years.

Senior psychology major Alex Ostrander was part of this university's marching and pep bands for the seven semesters she spent on the campus. For her, it wasn't just playing that made the experience worth it — the relationships she made along the way were just as important, she said.

"Not only do you have the memories with band," said Ostrander, who played the marching baritone. "You also create memories outside of it, and it's just the people are amazing."

In her sophomore year, Ostrander sprained her ankle while walking on the football field with the marching band. She still remembers how a band member who she didn't know ran to get her some ice right away.

United by their passion for performance, band members were always there to help each other, she said, and that sense of community is something many will miss.

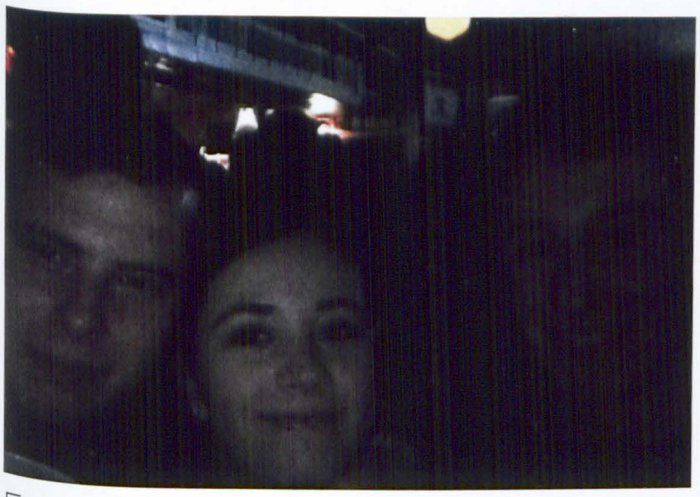
"It's just hitting and hurting so many people," Ostrander said.

And though it was only his first year in the band, senior and alto saxophone player Orlando Romero feels the same way. This spring was his first chance to play the NCAA tournaments with his bandmates — a chance he was excited about and won't have again.

"It kinda tears your heart out a little bit," he said.

Bars & Their Ever-Shifting Tides

by Juliette Ducasse



Freshman year: "Let's go to Bents."

Sophomore year: "Oh. Turf?"

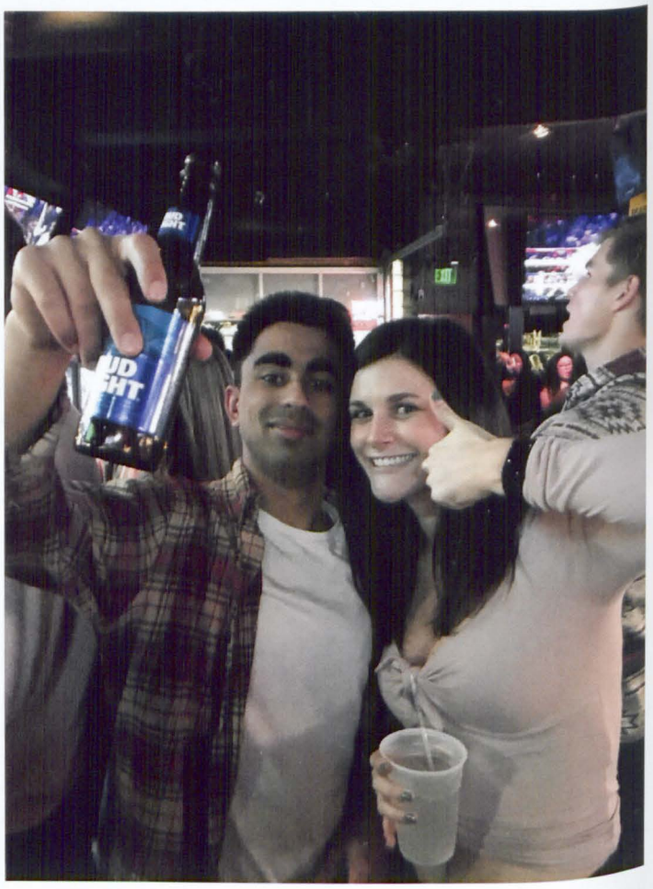
Junior year: "Roll Stone."

Senior year: "Stone on a good day; Looneys on a bad one."

With age comes wisdom, experience and a burdening sense of knowledge. Youth fades. Interests change, and so do the social tides, carrying upperclassmen and lowly freshmen to their respective watering holes.

A freshman's trip to the filling station usually consists of running in to every person from their COMM 107 class, Snapchatting pictures with (or of) UMD basketball and football players, and getting to know Rico, R.J. Bentley's legendary bouncer. Sophomores looking for a more SOPHisticated time turned to Turf Tuesdays.

Alok Shetty and Evan Haynos



Rohan Sharma and Tessa Oakes

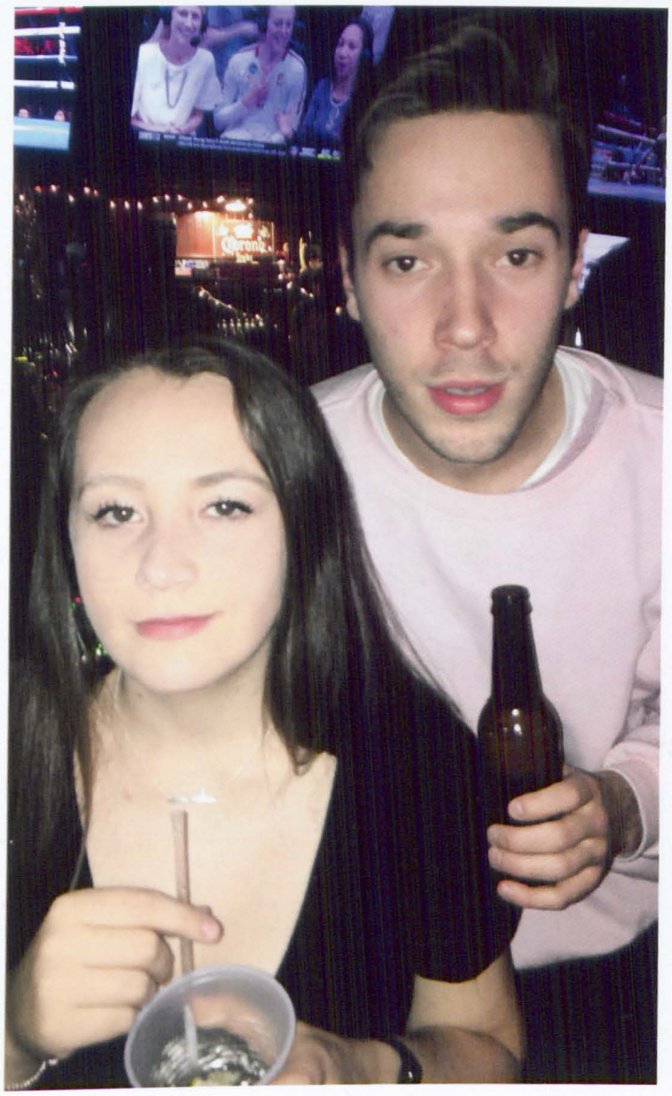
Dana Gray, senior journalism and government and politics major, weighed in on the trends. "Bents is just a classic freshman year experience and then it's like a rite of passage to graduate to a different bar after that," Gray says.

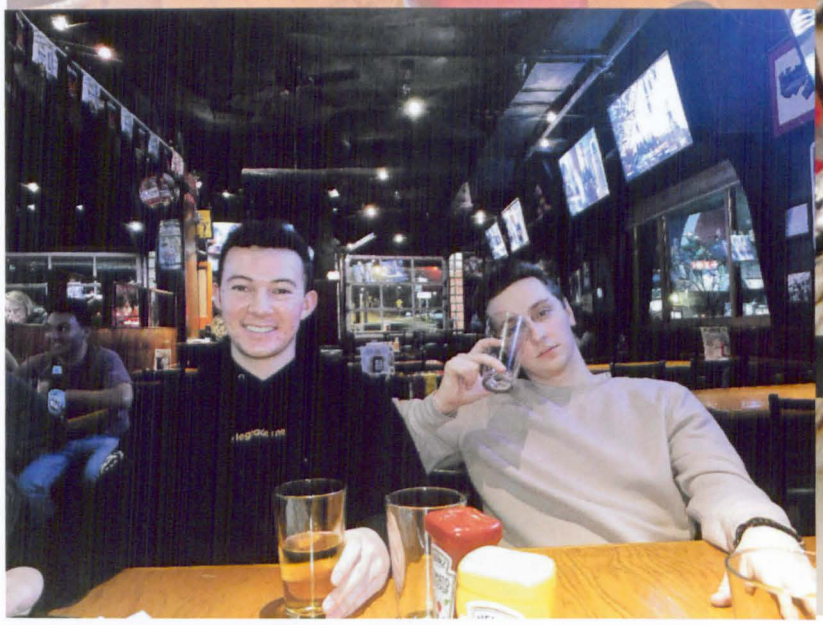
Seeking refuge from a sea of underclassmen, an upperclassmen's trip to the bars is different. With time comes knowledge of what key factors to consider when choosing what CP bar to go to: Happy Hour pricing, quality of food, price of cover (special shoutout to Rails), length of the line and how long the pregame is.

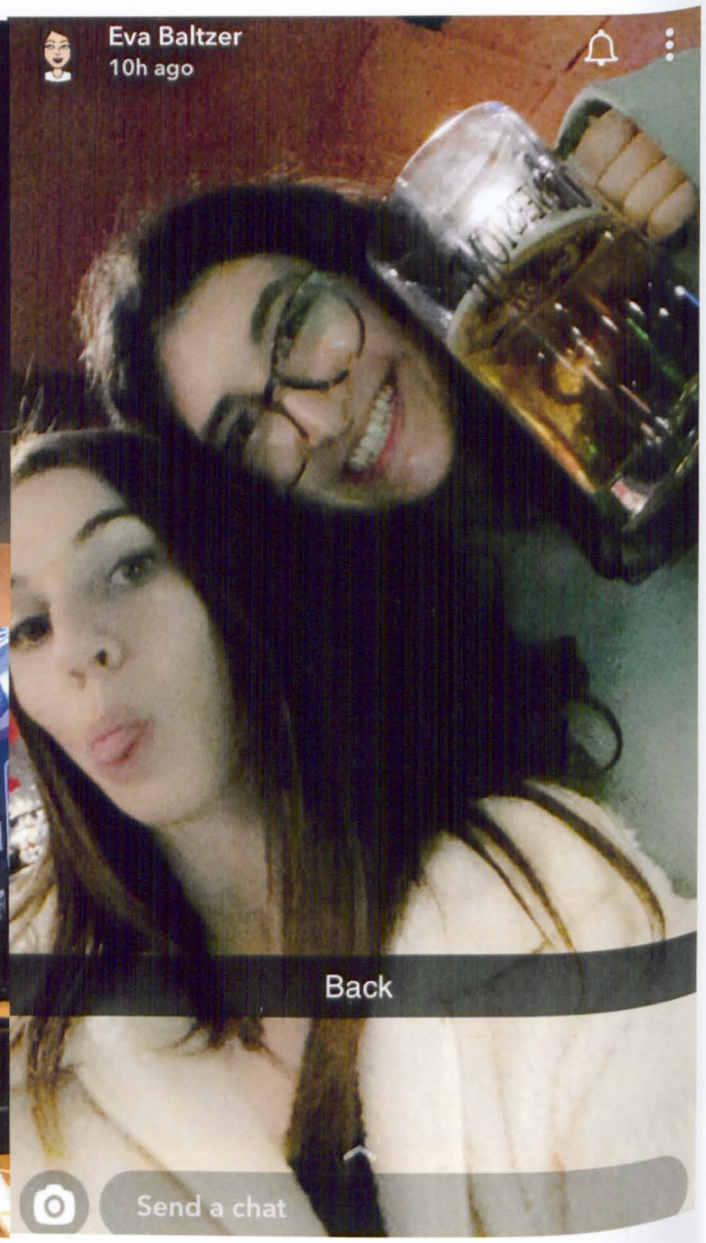
The Rail has a small line and typically does not charge cover, and Cornerstone and Looney's offer food and drink deals every day.

Cornerstone's Taps tradition, a quest to drink every drink the bar has on tap, leaves some graduating seniors footing a $60 bill for 10+ beers or ciders.

No one will shame their friends for going to Cornerstone on a Monday, doing group projects there on a Tuesday or for going there 7 days in a row. If they do, they're probably an underclassman.

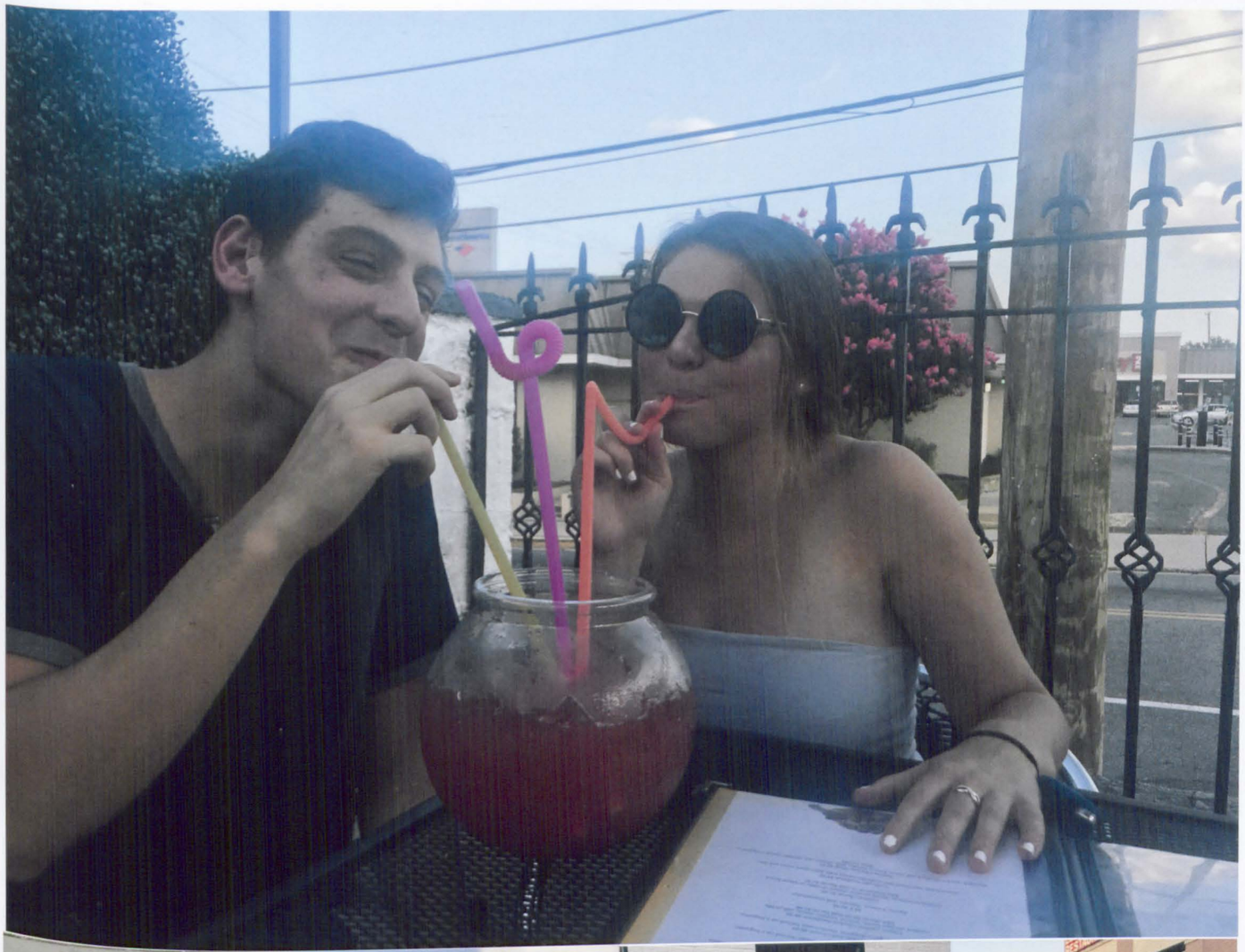




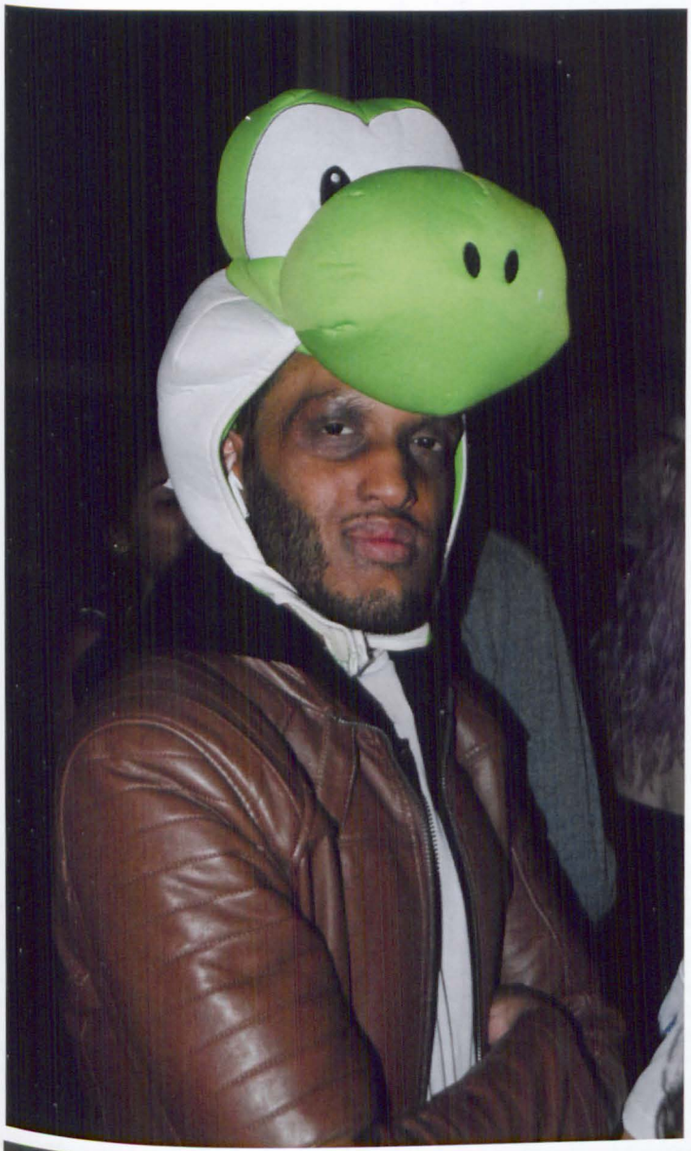


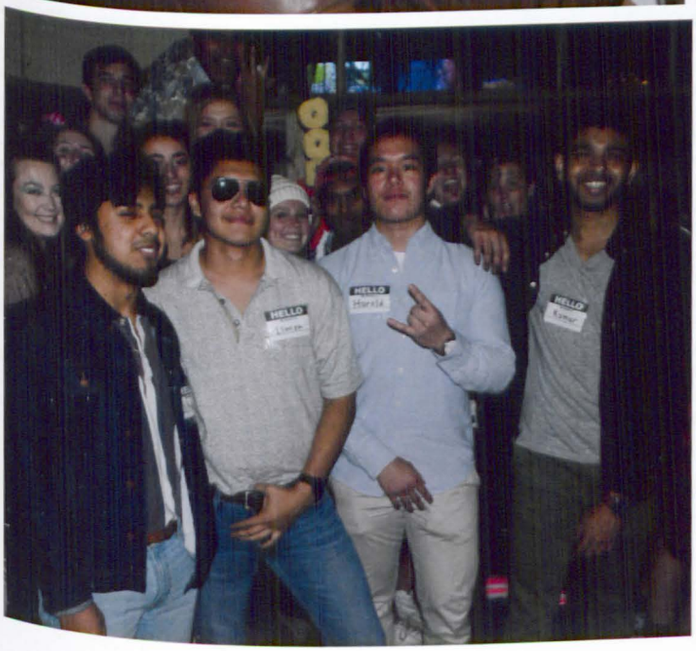
Jack Schemmel, senior economics and journalism major, shared his attachment to one bar in particular.

"Cornerstone is one of my favorite places on earth," Schemmel says. "It's where I hung out with my friends, did stupid stuff, and hung out until they played 'Closing Time.' I would love to have two more months of Saturday nights in good 'ol Cstone."



Halloween at the Bars





THOSE WE LOST

The past four years have been marked by tragedy. Here's how it impacted the senior class.

By Christine Condon & Lyna Bentahar | @CChristine19 & @lynabentahar | *Senior staff writers*

A STUDENT holds a candle in front of the Montgomery Hall bus stop during a midnight memorial to remember 2nd Lt. Richard Collins on his 25th birthday on D

Elonna Jones was at home in Baltimore the summer after her freshman year at the University of Maryland. She was babysitting her younger sister, and the news was playing on television in the background.

That's when the story about 2nd Lt. Richard Collins came on.

Jones had already heard about Collins' death. She already knew that the young black man, a soon-to-be graduate from Bowie State University, had been standing at a bus stop on the campus when he was approached and stabbed to death with a pocket knife.

But suddenly, the tears started coming.

"I just found myself crying. I wasn't even sure really where the tears came from," she said. "It was almost like the sudden re-realization of why black bodies really don't matter."

Nearly three years have passed since then, and Jones and other graduating seniors at this university are still carrying with them what most other current students do not. They know what it was like to be on the campus before Collins' death — and after.

And their time at Maryland has been stained by a series of agonizing losses. The death of Jordan McNair, a football player who suffered heatstroke at a team workout. The death of Olivia Paregol, a freshman whose battle with adenovirus cost her her life.

These four years have featured court cases and task forces, investigations and reports. By now, most of those things have come and gone. But the painful memories will linger, for the friends and family of those who were lost and for the senior class that bore witness to tragedy after tragedy.

For Jones, now the president of the campus NAACP chapter, Collins' death was something of a call to action. Then a commuter student who was struggling to get involved, Jones decided to apply for the chapter's board after Collins was killed.

"I knew that after my freshman year, especially after he was murdered, that I wanted to try to do something," said Jones, a senior government and politics major.

For her, it was about being heard by the university's administration, which was grappling with campus racism in the wake of Collins' killing and had started developing programming in an attempt to address it.

"How do we make the university and the administration hear us, and not only hear us but really have sympathy and understand our plight as black people, and then also as black students?" she said.

That concern had long existed, but became especially poignant after a string of racist incidents in 2017. Posters proclaiming America is a "white nation" appeared on the campus, and a noose was hung in a campus fraternity house.

In May 2017, Isha Kamara, a senior African-American studies major, joined a protest in front of the president's house, demanding the administration take action to prevent more incidents in the future.

"It's someone's blood that's going to be on your hands," Kamara recalled the protesters saying.

A little over a year later, McNair's death unearthed many of the same concerns.

For Kamara, it felt like "Richard all over again."

The investigation into McNair's death would reveal that the training staff charged with caring for him were slow to recognize the signs of heatstroke and didn't pursue the proper remedy, which would have required them to submerge the young athlete in an ice bath.

The story felt familiar to Jones. It was a jarring reminder that black people's pain is sometimes discounted and undertreated in medicine as a result of racial bias.

"We have suffered tragedy as a university community in recent years, and we have always kept at the forefront our need to support our students through difficult times," said university spokesperson Katie Lawson in a statement. "Through sadness, we have worked to provide the opportunities for all of us to unite and lean on one another. As we near the end of the academic year, we honor loss as we also celebrate the many accomplishments of our graduates."

Mrinalini Nagarajan, a senior criminology and criminal justice major, felt her heart break when she got news of Collins' and McNair's deaths. In the wake of losing each of them, she felt called to stand up and support them.

In one instance, she spoke up against students who continued to use the bus stop where Collins was killed, even after it became a de facto memorial to the young ROTC student.

This winter, former student of this university Sean Urbanski was convicted of first-degree murder in Collins' death, although the hate crime charge against him was dropped. Still, no permanent memorial to Collins exists on the campus.

After McNair's death, Nagarajan participated in a rally in McNair's honor, entitled "Justice for Jordan."

Though the rally was originally a protest against football coach DJ Durkin's reinstatement, it ended up taking place after the coach's departure. It devolved into disorder as two factions emerged: those who still felt dissatisfied by the administration's approach, and those who wanted to use the rally as a public show of support for student athletes. But, most importantly, the rally showed the student body

s 26th birthday on Dec. 12, 2019. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

FRESHMAN MARIA FISHER died in October 2017 after she was hit by a car in College Park. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

cared about what had taken place, Nagarajan said.

"That was really just something I felt proud to be a part of at the end," Nagarajan said. "At least we're bringing awareness on campus."

Seeing the university come together after each loss brought Nagarajan hope, she said.

"A lot of people were there to support one another during the toughest time," she said. "I think, over the years, more changes will be made in the right direction."

Alex Ostrander, a senior psychology major, looks forward to seeing the current engineering school dean, Darryll Pines, as this university's next president. She hopes that, under his leadership, university administration will become more transparent.

The tragedies Ostrander saw exposed the university's inability to be proactive, she said, convincing her that the administration was continually withholding information from the community.

That belief was reinforced, Ostrander said, after the adenovirus outbreak that struck campus in 2018, killing Olivia Paregol. The university waited 18 days before notifying the campus community of the virus's presence on the campus. Investigations revealed the university followed the necessary protocol, but that communication between departments was troubled.

"It's crazy that the student ended up dying because the university didn't make them aware of [the virus]," Ostrander said. "With all these situations, nothing's really done about it until there's a horrific incident."

The death of Maria Fisher also lingers in Kamara's memory. Fisher, a freshman from Pennsylvania, was hit and killed by a car as she crossed Route 1 early one morning in October 2017. In the months after the crash, Fisher's family revealed she had woken up in a strange room that morning and called several friends in distress. But the police investigation revealed little about Fisher's whereabouts before she was killed.

Kamara said she felt as though the university didn't provide students with enough information about what happened to Fisher.

"Her story was just kind of thrown away," Kamara said. Meanwhile, she said, her fellow students "have to wake up every day and live with it for the rest of their lives."

As her time at Maryland draws to a close, Jones is reflecting on the difficult times. She remembers the personal challenges — the commutes filled with car trouble that, more than once, stranded her on the side of I-95 — and the challenges for her community: overcoming loss and, in Collins' case, what still feels like a lapse in justice.

But she remembers the good times, too, like the moment this winter, when she gathered with other students at the Montgomery Hall bus stop to memorialize Collins on what would have been his 26th birthday, candles held aloft in the midnight air.

"Activism is still very much alive on this campus," Jones said. "I feel like I'm leaving campus in a better state than when I came here as a freshman."

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#Justice For Olivia Paregol
OLIVIA PAREGOL DIED A YEAR AGO TODAY OF ADENOVIRUS. THE UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER FAILED TO DISCLOSE LIFE-SAVING INFORMATION TO OLIVIA AND HER FAMILY.
THIS COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED.

A FLYER calling for justice for Olivia Paregol hangs outside Taliaferro Hall. JULIA NIKHINSON/THE DIAMONDBACK

"I'M GLAD I ENDED UP HERE"

RACHEL HIRSCHHEIMER films a standup while on assignment for Capital News Service. PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL HIRSCHHEIMER

KRISTINA WHITAKER (first row, far left) poses for a senior photo with her volleyball teammates. PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTINA WHITAKER

At the end of their UMD journeys, graduating seniors remember their fondest memories on campus.

By Clara Niel | @clarasniel | *Staff writer*

"An unforgettable three-and-a-half years."

"Every day was a dream."

"Is there cover at Bentley's?"

That's how a handful of seniors summed up their time at the University of Maryland. They went through ups and downs, highs and lows, experiencing the tumultuous rollercoaster of college as they grew into adults. Now, as these seniors leave their undergraduate years behind, some are taking a look back.

For communication major Kristina Whitaker, senior year was the best of them all, even though her time on campus was cut short.

Everything was going well. Whitaker found fulfillment in her place on this university's club volleyball team and her job at the front desk in Prince Frederick Hall. She spent time with her friends and threw herself into every aspect of her collegiate life — including her classes, which Whitaker said she will miss, in an odd way.

"I think as a senior in college, being a student is part of our identities for so long, you almost don't know how to not go to class in some way, shape or form, or have regular assignments, or just be constantly learning," she said.

Whitaker transferred to Maryland from the University of Delaware before her sophomore year, a nerve-wracking transition that she was ultimately happy with, she said.

"I think everything kind of happens for a reason," she said. "I'm glad I ended up here. It was a great, great experience."

Whitaker said she found comfort and community at this university, and she's not the only one. As their time in college comes to an end, seniors are thinking about what they'll miss most about their university experiences — from rubbing Testudo's nose to the sense of community they said was felt at school.

Some — like finance major Timothy Pang — home in on the little traditions they created during their time as Terps. Pang fondly remembers one tradition from when he was living on the campus: chicken tender night at the dining halls. He's been living off-campus for the past couple years, but he still remembers nights he and his friends would spend indulging in the crispy, golden delicacy.

"That was a night I could not miss," the senior said. "I would have upwards of like 15 chicken tenders per day. As soon as one of my friends saw that it would be chicken tender night, they would take a picture of ... the little postcard thing in the dining hall, send it and everyone would be like, 'All right, we're going.'"

Others, like accounting major Maggie McGreal, won't miss a food, but a feeling — that of being surrounded by thousands of students who understood exactly what she's going through.

"I definitely remember both staying up super late in the dorms freshman year and getting movie nights," McGreal said. "[College] is probably the most social point in our lives."

For all of the basketball games, late-night hangouts and convenience store runs it provides, the college experience is not without its hardships — several seniors said their time at this university was smattered with challenges.

One of journalism major Rachel Hirschheimer's first challenges came early on during her freshman year. She was getting ready to cover her first-ever sporting event — a women's basketball game — for The Left Bench. Her nerves were so bad that she lost sleep the night before. But, when it came time, she managed to get through it, accumulating around 3,000 views on the resulting video.

Now, as a senior, she's the executive producer of The Left Bench.

"I think I learned to challenge myself and to not be afraid to do something that I've never done before because, I mean, if you don't challenge yourself and you don't put yourself out there, you'll never grow," Hirschheimer said.

And, with their final semester cut short by the coronavirus pandemic, the senior class' on-campus experiences have become even more valuable.

Though he hopes next year's seniors don't have to undergo the same abrupt ending to their final year, James Mahoney said the pandemic fallout left him with some advice for the class of 2021.

"Looking back at all the great sort of last experiences that you didn't know were your last experiences, just take it all in day by day," the journalism major said. "Try not to get caught up in the hours of schoolwork and the grind of college itself and enjoy the day-to-day life as a college student."

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A Very Animal Crossing Graduation

Curated by Sorina Lim and Albert Botchway for
Abel Dereje, Sharon Lee and Hayley Myren

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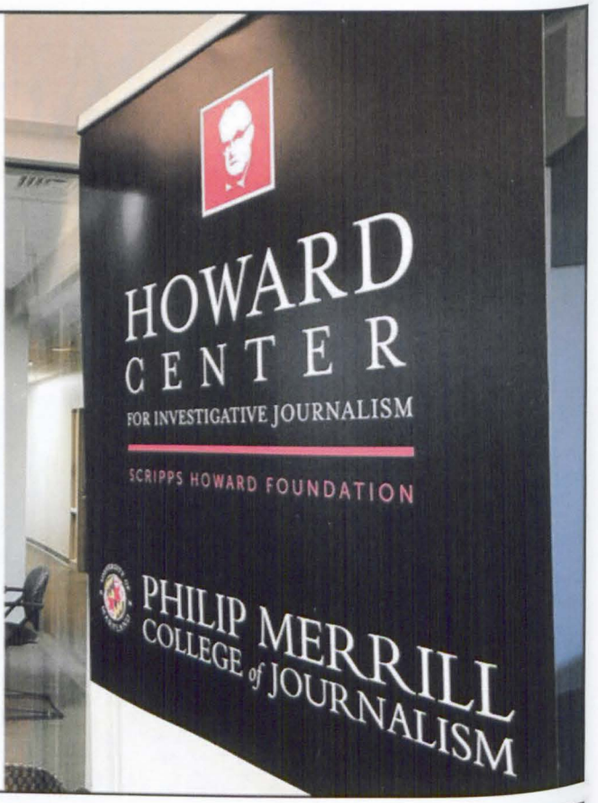

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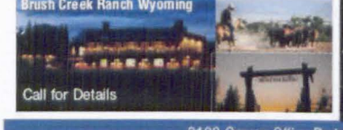

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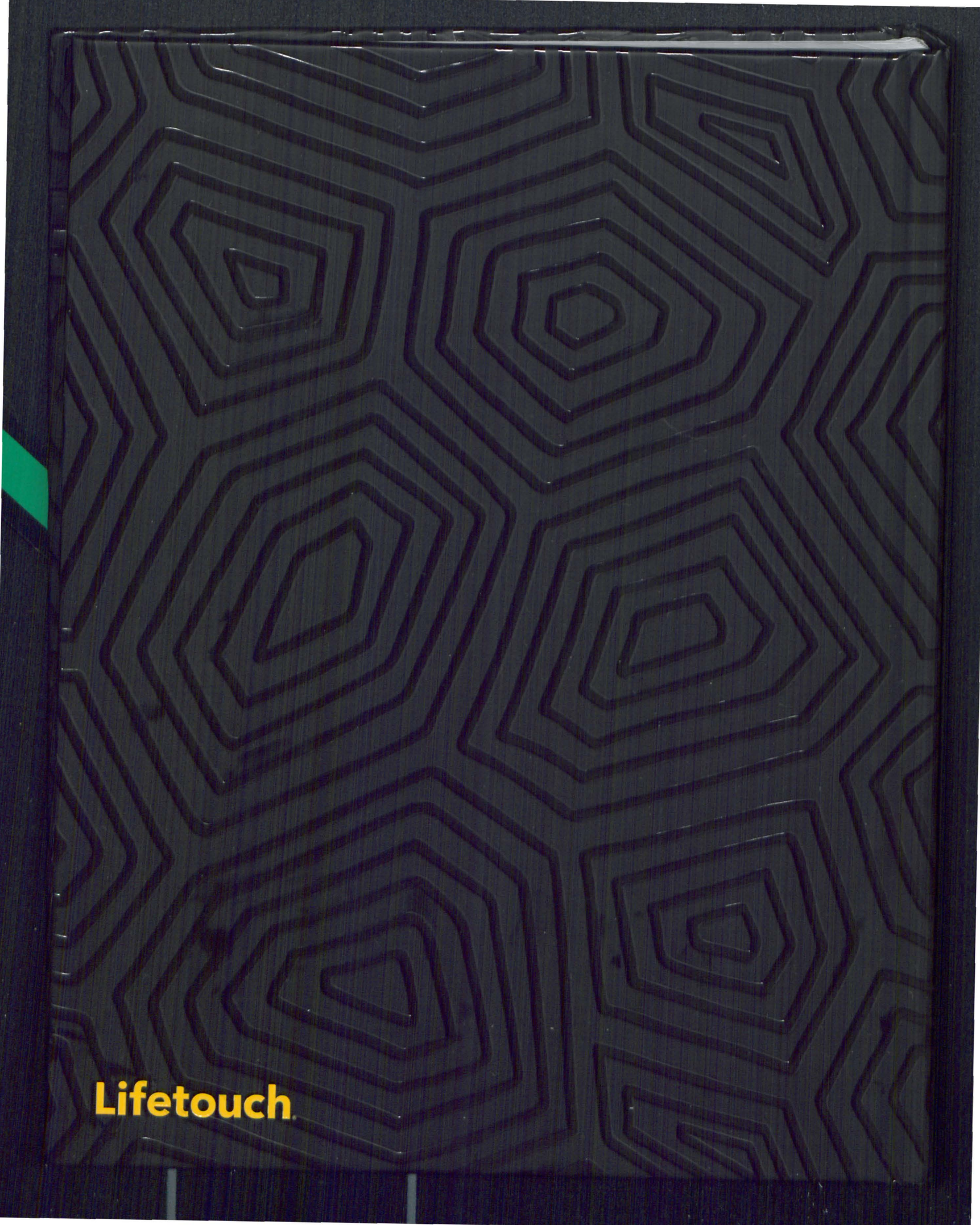
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